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No. ~~200~~ 4

IN THE  
**Supreme Court of the United States**

OCTOBER TERM, 1959

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF MACHINISTS, ET AL.,  
APPELLANTS,

v.

S. B. STREET, ET AL., APPELLEES

On Appeal from the Supreme Court of Georgia

**BRIEF FOR THE APPELLANTS**

MILTON KRAMER  
LESTER P. SCHOENE

SCHOENE AND KRAMER  
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On Appeal from the Supreme Court of Georgia

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**BRIEF FOR THE APPELLANTS**

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**OPINIONS BELOW**

The opinion of the Supreme Court of Georgia in the first appeal, *sub nom.* *Looper v. G. S. & F. L.*, is reported in 213 Ga. 279, 99 S.E. 2d 101; a copy is appended to the Jurisdictional Statement as Appendix A. The opinion of the Supreme Court of Georgia in the second appeal is reported in Ga. , 108 S.E. 2d 108; a copy is appended to the Jurisdictional Statement as Appendix B thereto, and appears in the printed

page 249. A copy of the "Findings, Conclusions, Order, Judgement and Decree" of the Superior Court of Bibb County, Georgia, which was affirmed by the decision appealed from, is not reported, is appended to the Jurisdictional Statement as Appendix C thereto, and appears in the printed Record at page 101.

### JURISDICTION

This action was brought in the Superior Court of Bibb County, Georgia, by certain employees of the Southern Railway Company and one of its subsidiaries to enjoin that company and all its subsidiaries (comprising the Southern Railway System) and the appellant labor unions from performing union-shop agreements entered into by the said railroad companies and the said unions pursuant to Section 2, Eleventh of the Railway Labor Act (Act of Jan. 10, 1951, c. 1220, 64 Stat. 1238, U.S.C. tit. 45, sec. 152, Eleventh), and, among other items of relief, to declare said section 2, Eleventh unconstitutional and ineffective to supersede state law. The judgment of the Supreme Court of Georgia was entered May 8, 1959 (R. 270), Notice of Appeal was filed in that Court on June 5, 1959 (R. 271), the Jurisdictional Statement was filed in this Court on July 30, 1959, and probable jurisdiction was noted October 12, 1959 (R. 276).

In the trial court appellants relied on the authority of Section 2, Eleventh of the Railway Labor Act as supporting the validity of the union-shop agreements under attack and the repugnance of state law to the federal law. (R. 62, 77-8, 94-5, 95-6.) The individual appellees prayed for a decree declaring the federal law unconstitutional, and such prayer was granted. R. 83, 106. There was thus "drawn in question the validity of a . . . statute of the United States," as provided in Section 1257(1), title 28, U.S.C. The individual appellees also relied on state law determining the validity of the agreements involved although said law was repugnant to the federal law. R. 78, 79. Thus there was "drawn in question the validity of a

statute of any state on the ground of its being repugnant to the Constitution, treaties or laws of the United States, and the decision is in favor of its validity," as provided in section 1257(2).

### QUESTIONS PRESENTED

The following questions are presented by this appeal:

1. Whether the Supreme Court of Georgia erred in holding the union-shop amendment to the Railway Labor Act (as amended, sec. 2, Eleventh, Act of Jan. 10, 1951, 64 Stat. 1238, U.S.C. tit. 45, § 152, Eleventh) unconstitutional and invalid.

2. Whether the Supreme Court of Georgia erred in holding that union-shop agreements entered into pursuant to the Railway Labor Act are unconstitutional and invalid.

3. Whether the Supreme Court of Georgia erred in holding Georgia law and the laws of other States valid and applicable to union-shop agreements between a carrier subject to the Railway Labor Act and the duly designated representatives of its employees, despite the acknowledged repugnance of such law so applied to section 2, Eleventh of the Railway Labor Act and its claimed repugnance to the Constitution of the United States by reason of Congressional preemption of the field.

4. Whether the Supreme Court of Georgia erred in affirming a judgment permanently enjoining the performance of union-shop agreements subject to and in compliance with the Railway Labor Act.

5. Whether the Supreme Court of Georgia erred in holding that the use, by a union having a union-shop agreement, of a part of its dues receipts for purposes other than the negotiation and administration of collective bargaining agreements concerning rates of pay, rules and working conditions, or wages, hours, terms or other conditions of employment, violates constitutional rights under the

4  
First and Fifth Amendments of employees subject to such union-shop agreement.

6. Whether the Supreme Court of Georgia erred in holding that the decision of this Court in *Railway Employees Dept. v. Hanson*, 351 U.S. 225, is inapplicable where it is found that a union having a union-shop agreement spends part of its funds for political and legislative purposes.

7. Whether the appellants were denied due process of law by the holdings of the Supreme Court of Georgia:

(a) That the procedural rulings of the trial court did not deny appellants a fair opportunity to defend this action.

(b) That a class action may properly be brought on behalf of persons whose membership in the class is determined by ascertaining a combination of mental attitudes of each person.

(c) That the plaintiffs in the trial court had standing to sue unions not the collective bargaining representative of the class in which they are employed, with respect to collective bargaining agreements not affecting the plaintiffs.

(d) Sustaining the same findings of fact with respect to all the union defendants despite the substantial difference in the evidence with respect to the several union defendants.

(e) Sustaining findings of fact not supported by any evidence.

#### STATUTES INVOLVED

Section 2, Eleventh of the *Railway Labor Act*, as amended by the Act of January 10, 1951, c. 1220, 64 Stat. 1238, U.S.C., Title 45, Sec. 152, Eleventh:

"Eleventh. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, or of any other statute or law of the United States, or Territory thereof, or of any State

any carrier or carriers as defined in this Act and a labor organization or labor organization duly designated and authorized to represent employees in accordance with the requirements of this Act shall be permitted—

“(a) to make agreements, requiring, as a condition of continued employment, that within sixty days following the beginning of such employment, or the effective date of such agreements, whichever is the later, all employees shall become members of the labor organization representing their craft or class: *Provided*, That no such agreement shall require such condition of employment with respect to employees to whom membership is not available upon the same terms and conditions as are generally applicable to any other member or with respect to employees to whom membership was denied or terminated for any reason other than the failure of the employee to tender the periodic dues, initiation fees, and assessments (not including fines and penalties) uniformly required as a condition of acquiring or retaining membership.

“(b) to make agreements providing for the deduction by such carrier or carriers from the wages of its or their employees in a craft or class and payment to the labor organization representing the craft or class of such employees, of any periodic dues, initiation fees, and assessments (not including fines and penalties) uniformly required as a condition of acquiring or retaining membership: *Provided*, That no such agreement shall be effective with respect to any individual employee until he shall have furnished the employer with a written assignment to the labor organization of such membership dues, initiation fees, and assessments, which shall be revocable in writing after the expiration of one year or upon the termination date of the applicable collective agreement, whichever occurs sooner.

“(d) Any provisions in paragraph Fourth and Fifth of section 2 of this Act in conflict herewith are to the extent of such conflict amended.”

*Georgia Code*, ch. 54-9, sections 54-901 through 54-904:

“54-901 Definitions.—When used in this Chapter—



“(a) The term ‘employer’ includes any person acting in the interest of an employer, directly or indirectly, but shall not include the United States, any State, or any political subdivision thereof, or any person subject to the Railway Labor Act, as amended from time to time, or any labor organization (other than when acting as an employer) or any one acting in the capacity of officer or agent of such labor organization.

“(b) The term ‘employee’ shall include any employee, and shall not be limited to the employee of a particular organization.

“(c) The term ‘employment’ means employment by an employer as defined in this Chapter.

“(d) The term ‘labor organization’ means any organization of any kind, or any agency or employee representation committee or plan, in which employees participate and which exists for the purpose, in whole or in part, of dealing with employers concerning grievances, labor disputes, wages, rates of pay, hours of employment or conditions of work.

“54-902. Membership in labor organization as a condition of employment.—No individual shall be required as a condition of employment, or of continuance of employment, to be or remain a member or an affiliate of a labor organization, or resign from or to be removed from membership in or affiliation with a labor organization.

“54-903. Payment to labor organization as a condition of employment.—No individual shall be required as a condition of employment, or of continuance of employment, to pay any fee, assessment, or other contribution of money whatsoever, to a labor organization.

“54-904. Contracts requiring membership payments to, labor organizations as contrary to public policy.—Any provision in a contract between an employer and a labor organization which requires as a condition of employment, or of continuance of employment, that any individual become or remain a member or an affiliate of a labor organization, or that any individual pay any fee, assessment, or other



of money whatsoever, to a labor organization, is hereby declared to be contrary to public policy of this State, and any such provision in any such contract heretofore or hereafter made shall be absolutely void."

*Constitution of the United States, Article VI, cl. 2:*

"This Constitution, and the Laws of the United States which shall be made in Pursuance thereof;  
• • • shall be the supreme law of the Land • • •"

### STATEMENT

#### The Parties

The labor union appellants, who are the real parties in interest as appellants, are standard railway labor organizations which have at all material times been the collective bargaining representatives of their respective crafts or classes of employees of the Southern Railway. R. 169-71. They represent those employees commonly referred to as the "non-operating" employees of the carriers. Apart from some unproven allegations in the complaint as amended, there is nothing in the record to show the identity, relationship, or conduct of any of the individual defendants.

The railroad company appellees are common carriers by railroad subject to the Interstate Commerce Act; as such, they are "carriers" within the meaning of and subject to the Railway Labor Act. R. 198.

At the time of the trial, there were six petitioners or intervening petitioners (now appellees), all employed within the craft or class of clerk,\* five by the Southern Railway Company and one by the New Orleans and Northeastern Railroad Company. R. 5, 16, 202-4. Those carriers and seven other carriers were named as defendants and are subject to the final order. R. 1-2, 105. One of the individual appellees is a resident of and employed in Mississippi, one is a resi-

\* The record shows that three of the individual appellees are employed in the craft or class of clerks (R. 5, 72-4, 106, 203-4) and does not contain proof of the craft in which the other three are employed; in fact, all six are employed in that craft. See R. 90, 92, 106.

dent of and employed in the District of Columbia remaining four are residents of and employed in R. 71-4. All are represented for purposes of collective bargaining by the Brotherhood of Railway and Air Line Clerks, Freight Handlers, Express and Station Employees. They purport to sue on behalf of all employees of the Southern Railway companies represented in collective bargaining by any of the appellant unions, residing in various states in which the Southern operates. The unions were enjoined in the final order entered and are below. R. 105.

#### **The Union-Shop Agreements and the Railway Labor Act**

By the Act of January 10, 1951 (set forth at page 10) Congress amended the Railway Labor Act so as not to prohibit all forms of union-security agreements but instead to permit union-shop agreements subject to certain limitations and conditions prescribed by the statute. It was specifically provided that such agreements were to be permitted "Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, or of any other statute or law of the United States, or of any Territory thereof, or of any State". Thereafter, railroad companies entered into union-shop agreements with the appellant unions in the terms of the 1951 amendment to the Railway Labor Act, complying with all the limitations and incorporating all the limitations required by the statute. The agreements provide that they shall be separate agreements between each carrier and each labor organization. R. 214. The agreements require (subject to certain conditions and limitations not relevant here) that all employees covered by the basic collective bargaining agreement between the carrier and the union, as a condition of continued employment, become members of the union within 60 days after beginning of such employment or after the effective date of the agreement, whichever is later. R. 205-6. However,

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condition of employment applies to any employee to whom membership is not available on the same terms and conditions as are generally applicable, nor to any employee who might be denied membership or whose membership might be terminated for any reason other than failure to tender the periodic dues, initiation fees, and assessments (not including fines and penalties) uniformly required as a condition of acquiring or retaining membership. R. 207-8.

There is no contention that the agreements in any way exceed the authority which the statute, if valid and effective according to its terms, confers. The union-shop agreements involved here, except for the names of the parties, are identical with the union-shop agreement before the 'Court in *Railway Employees' Dept. v. Hanson*, 351 U.S. 225.

#### Procedural Matters

The individual appellees chose not to comply with this condition upon their continued employment by the Southern. Instead they brought, or intervened in, this action, seeking to enjoin the enforcement of the union-shop agreements, claiming that the agreements violated their rights under the Constitution of the United States and under the so-called "right-to-work" provisions of the statutes of Georgia and the laws of other states. R. 9-13, 78-82.

As finally amended, the petition alleges that the union-shop agreements entered into between the defendant labor organizations and the defendant railroads are illegal, unconstitutional, and void, and in direct violation of the Georgia right to work laws (Code Ann. Supp., Sec. 54-801 through 54-908, Ga. L. 1947, pp. 616-621), Georgia public policy, the laws and public policy of other states served by the defendant railroads, the First, Fifth, Ninth, and Tenth Amendments to the Constitution of the United States, and certain sections of the Constitution of the State of Georgia. R. 78-82. It further alleges that the initiation fees, periodic dues, and assessments which the petitioners would be re-

quired to pay under the union-shop agreement used in substantial part for purposes not germane to collective bargaining but to support ideological doctrines and candidates which they are not willing to support and cannot lawfully be forced to support, the petitioners' constitutionally guaranteed right of association, thought, liberty, and property. R. 78-82. It was further alleged that the amendments, and Section 2, Eleventh of the Railroad Labor Act (45 U.S.C.A. Sec. 152, Eleventh) to the extent that they authorize such union-shop agreements, are unconstitutional under the First, Fifth, Ninth, and Tenth Amendments of the United States. R. 82, 83.

The action was commenced in June, 1958, in the federal court, and remanded in January, 1959. R. 57-8, 219.

Appellants promptly filed a motion to amend the complaint as theretofore amended on the ground that it failed to state a cause of action. R. 219. At the time the motion was filed, the appellees offered further amendments to the petition to add allegations that the assessments which would be required under the union-shop agreement would be used in substantial part for purposes not germane to collective bargaining but to support ideological and political doctrines and candidates which they were not willing to support. R. 59, 219. The court accepted the amendments, treated the motion as directed to the complaint as so amended, and granted the motion and dismissed the complaint on the ground that this Court's decision in *Rail Labor Dept. v. Hanson*, 351 U.S. 225, had adjudicated the constitutional questions of the petitioners adversely to their position. R. 221.

On appeal to the Supreme Court of Georgia, the court reversed the trial court (R. 221) in what are undoubtedly the most intemperate opinions ever issued by a judicial tribunal. 213 Ga. 279, 99 S.E. 2d 1000. The court's Jurisdictional Statement. In essence, a

reements would be germane to collective and political doctrine, thus violating the rights of freedom of property. R. 59, 754. The union-shop agreement under the Railway Labor Act to the extent that it is violative of the provisions of the Constitution.

1953, was removed in January 1957. R. 31.

to dismiss the complaint on the ground that it failed to state a claim. The hearing on that motion was further amended to include the fees, dues, and expenses of the union-shop agreement as part of the damages sought to support the claim of the employees and their candidates which they sought to recover. R. 19. The trial court refused to dismiss the motion, and so treating the petition on the merits. The *Railway Employees* indicated the contrary position. R. 221.

Georgia that Court said that must be one of the duties of an American citizen. 2d 101; Appendix A, after castigating

this Court and the Congress, for perverting the intent of the Founding Fathers, it held that it need follow the Court's ruling in the *Hanson* case only with respect to the precise ruling, and not with respect to any implications except insofar as implications adverse to these appellants might be extracted from certain language in the *Hanson* opinion. The Supreme Court of Georgia was of the opinion that apparently this Court did not appreciate that unions engage in legislative and political activities, and was of the further view that certain language in the *Hanson* opinion could be interpreted to reserve decision on the constitutionality of Section 2, Eleventh of the Railway Labor Act in permitting union-shop agreements by unions that engage in such activities.

After remand to the Superior Court of Bibb County, the appellants were subjected to a host of astonishing and oppressive procedural rulings, described in Appendix A, of which they claimed deprived them of a fair opportunity to defend this case. After ultimate trial proceedings, the Superior Court entered the order attached to the Judicial Statement as Exhibit C (R. 101-7), declaring section 2, Eleventh unconstitutional insofar as it permits the union-shop agreements, enjoining the enforcement of those agreements, and holding the law of Georgia and other states effective and applicable to such agreements despite the declaration in section 2, Eleventh that Congress preempted the field and superseded state law. On appeal to the Supreme Court of Georgia, that Court affirmed the order of the trial court. R. 249, 270.

#### The Evidence

It is obviously impossible to summarize all the evidence within reasonable bounds. More than 600 exhibits, many of them voluminous, were introduced, and additional material was read into evidence over a period of four days. The type of evidence upon which plaintiffs stated they principally relied is as follows.



The labor organization defendants current dues ranging from \$2 per month to \$50 except that in the case of two of said initiation fee and reinstatement fee is \$25 respectively. R. 171-5.

All the defendant unions are affiliated with the Federation of Labor-Congress of Industrial Unions and pay to it 5¢ per member per month. The unions are active in the activities of that organization and endeavor to persuade legislative bodies to enact or not to enact certain legislation. R. 127, 131, 177. It also has a "Committee on Political Education" (COPE). R. 122, 131. The expenses of that Committee are financed in part by contributions to it by the AFL-CIO and in part by contributions solicited from individuals. R. 122-32, 137. The contributions are kept in an "individual contributions fund" and are used principally for contributions to members in public office. R. 137, 141-2. The preponderance of the funds receiving such contributions are contributed to the same major political party. R. 197. The contributions from the AFL-CIO are deposited into the "Fund" and are expended principally for the dissemination of information concerning political matters; the expenses of publication of political matter; the urging of the support of particular candidates; the securing of funds to be available for such support, and the individual contributions fund. R. 122-32.

Railway Labor Executives' Association is the chief executive officer of the defendant labor organizations and eight other labor organizations not defendants in this case. R. 179. All the affiliates contribute to the fund.

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\* The Masters, Mates, and Pilots, which represents the employees of the Southern, and the Marine Engineers' Association, which represents one employee. No other employees is suing.

currently have per-  
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basis to the support of the activities of that organiz-  
 R. 180-1; P. Exh. 430. The purpose of that organiz-  
 is to "maintain cooperative action and coordinated p-  
 on all matters of mutual interest and importance to  
 way labor." P. Exh. 430, p. 1. A principal activity of  
 organization is "in the field of federal legislation, wh-  
 attempts to influence legislation in which the Chief E-  
 tives who are members of Railway Labor Executives'  
 ciation deem the members of their organizations hav-  
 interest. R. 179. It also contributes to the "educat-  
 fund" of Railway Labor's Political League (RLPL)  
 cussed below. R. 184.

That League is an organization composed of man-  
 the individuals who are members of Railway Labor E-  
 tives' Association, and certain other persons who ar-  
 cials of railway labor organizations not defendants in  
 action. R. 182. It was organized to encourage ra-  
 workers to exercise their voting rights and to inform  
 of the position and records of candidates for public  
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 also has an educational fund and a "free" fund; the fo-  
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 fige. R. 182, 184. Also, as in the case of COPE, the  
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 office have been to candidates of the same major po-  
 party. R. 197. In addition to the contributions from H  
 into its educational fund, it has received contribution  
 that fund in substantial amounts from four of the  
 organization defendants and in insignificant amounts  
 three other of the labor organization defendants. R.  
 4. In addition, numerous contributions into that fund  
 received from local lodges of various of the labor org-  
 tion defendants. Some voluntary contributions from  
 viduals also were deposited into said fund. R. 184.

All but two of the labor organization defendants, an



railway labor organizations that are not the owners of a weekly newspaper "Labor" newspaper is devoted primarily to news matters. P. Exhibits 109-49, 168-228. It receives contributions of a dollar to the funds of R. 189. A substantial portion of its space is devoted to legislative matters and, during election periods, it publishes subjects dealing with the election of candidates. R. 189, par. 49. It also, during general elections, publishes special editions in support of candidates for public office; for example, during the 1900 election campaign it published 16 such special editions for distribution in the State or District of Columbia. R. 189, par. 49. Labor derives its financial support from subscriptions. R. 189, par. 49. Labor organization defendants, except on the subject of subscriptions, constituting a substantial portion of "Labor's" revenues, for officers and members. R. 189, par. 49. Defendants; the record does not show which defendants purchase subscriptions for all their members. R. 189, par. 49. Defendants purchase subscriptions by individual members. R. 189, par. 49. Defendants which of them purchase subscriptions only. R. 189.

Each of the labor organization defendants publishes a monthly journal. R. 199. Those journals, in addition to other contents, sometimes include suggestions for legislative action to RLPL or COPE, as well as suggestions for contributions to other organizations such as the American Heart Fund, etc. See. e.g., P. Exhibits 283, pp. 49, 50; 269, p. 34; 270, p. 33; 283, p. 302, p. 185; 337; Dfts. Exhibits 30, 58, 62, 63. Defendants also report the recommendations of RLPL for federal office. Exhibits 283, p. 9; 284, p. 325; 380, p. 8.

Some local lodges of some of the labor organization defendants engage directly in legislative action, except in the six States in which there is restriction.

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 It sometimes invites  
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 s the Red Cross, the  
 ts 281, p. 21; 282, p.  
 3; 296, p. 3; 298, p. 2;  
 62, 65. Some of them  
 RLPL on candidates  
 34, p. 39; 285, pp. 46:

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 ive activities and ex-  
 restrictive legislation.

support candidates for public office in the State or local  
 of the local union. R. 176-7 (par. 20), 191. The record  
 not show whether any of such local lodges are lodge  
 which any of the plaintiffs or any member of the purpo  
 class they represent would pay any funds pursuant to  
 union shop agreements.

#### **The "Findings, Conclusions, Order, Judgment and Decree"**

The trial court found this case to be a class action  
 found the class to consist of "all non-operating employ  
 of the railroad defendants affected by, and opposed to  
 hereinafter referred to union shop agreements, who  
 are opposed to the collection and use of periodic du  
 for challenged purposes. R. 191. The appellants obje  
 on the ground, among others, that a "class" in litiga  
 cannot consist of persons whose identity is determine  
 ascertaining, or trying to ascertain, whether or not  
 entertain a combination of mental attitudes. R. 229-30.  
 trial court found also that the labor organization def  
 ants entered into the union shop agreements "wit  
 authority from the employees represented by them".  
 230.

The trial court found that the labor organization def  
 ants used funds collected from the plaintiffs and the  
 ported class "to impose upon plaintiffs and the class  
 represent, as well as upon the general public; conform  
 to "certain political and economic doctrines, concepts  
 ideologies" and conformity to "legislative programs",  
 the labor organization defendants excepted on the gro  
 that there is nothing in the record to show that any of  
 union defendants imposed on anyone conformity to  
 doctrines, concepts, ideologies, or legislative program  
 233. The trial court found that the union shop agreem  
 are contrary to the constitution, law, and public polic  
 the State of Georgia and contrary to the statutes or la  
 other States in which the defendant railroads operate.

exception was made on the ground that the law and public policy of Georgia specifically does not prohibit such agreements, that the statutes or law of other States were not proven, and that in some States in which the defendant railroads operate the specific union shop agreements here involved have been held to be lawful. R. 234-5. A similar conclusion was made with respect to the union shop agreements violating the federal Constitution; the court held that the union shop agreements and their enforcement invade plaintiffs' personal and property rights, including freedom of speech, freedom of press, freedom of thought, freedom to work, and their political freedom and rights. R. 104, 235.

The trial court found that the injury to the plaintiffs from the complained of conduct would be irreparable but made no such finding with respect to the members of the purported class. R. 104 (par. 9), 236. The union defendants objected on the ground that there was nothing in the record to support a finding of irreparable injury, especially in view of the fact that the greatest amount of damages claimed by any plaintiff for being required to pay initiation fees and dues for a period of five years was \$158.25. R. 236.

The trial court found that the labor organization defendants had so commingled their funds that it was impossible to ascertain what portion of the dues collected by the defendant labor organizations was used for the complained of purposes and activities, and the union defendants excepted on the ground that there was nothing in the record to show what accounts were kept by said defendants or to show whether it would be impossible or difficult to ascertain what amounts they expend for particular purposes. R. 104, 236.

The trial court entered an order and decree perpetually enjoining the defendant railroads, the defendant unions, and the individual defendants from enforcing the union shop agreements and from discharging the petitioners, or

any member of the class they represent, for refusing to become or remain members of, or pay periodic dues, fees, or assessments to, any of the labor union defendants. R. 105-6. The court further found and declared that the plaintiffs were entitled to the return of all periodic dues, fees, and assessments which they had paid to the labor union defendants pursuant to the terms of the union shop agreements and entered judgment against the defendant Brotherhood of Railway and Steamship Clerks in favor of the plaintiff Hazel E. Cobb in the sum of \$158.25; in favor of the plaintiff J. H. Davis in the sum of \$133.50; and in favor of S. B. Street in the sum of \$151.50 for the fees and dues they had paid for a period of over five years. R. 106.

The court further entered a declaratory judgment finding and declaring Section 2, Eleventh of the Railway Labor Act (45 U.S.C. 152, Eleventh) to be unconstitutional to the extent that it permits, or is applied to permit, the exaction of funds from plaintiffs and the class they represent, for the complained of purposes and activities. R. 106.

The court likewise entered a declaratory judgment finding and declaring that the enforcement of the union shop agreements is illegal in that it deprives plaintiffs, and the class they represent, of personal rights guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States and the laws and policy of the State of Georgia and other States. R. 106.

The court also decreed that its order operated "as an adjudication of the basic common rights asserted by plaintiffs on their own behalf and on behalf of other employees of the defendant railroads." R. 107.

The only limitation on the order is a proviso "that said defendants [all the defendants, including the railroads and the individuals] may at any time petition the court to dissolve said injunction upon a showing that they no longer are engaged in the improper and unlawful activities described above." R. 106, 239-40.

### SUMMARY OF ARGUMENT

In the absence of a constitutional, statutory, or contractual provision to the contrary, an employer may discharge an employee for any reason, such as the failure of the employee to join a union, and the employer may do so either *sua sponte* or because it has contracted to do so. At common law a union-shop agreement was valid.

The federal constitution imposes no limitations on railroads or unions; it imposes limitations only on the federal and state governments. No contractual provision prevents the termination of plaintiffs' employment for not belonging to a union; the only contractual provisions are to the contrary. The only question therefore is whether there is some statutory or common law principle that prevents the application of the union-shop agreements to plaintiffs.

A union-shop agreement is lawful under Georgia statutory and common law. 160 A.L. R. 918. The only common law cases in Georgia assumed the validity of such agreements. And they must have been valid at common law else there would have been no need for Georgia to enact its so-called "right-to-work" law. But that statute specifically excludes the railroad industry from its substantive provisions. Georgia Code 54-901(a). The Georgia courts have not held to the contrary. The validity of union-shop agreements was never conditioned on the use made of dues secured by conditioning employment on union membership.

The enactment of section 2, Eleventh of the Railway Labor Act was constitutional action by Congress. So far as here pertinent it consisted of but two provisions. First, it repealed the prior federal prohibition of a union shop in the railroad industry, and the validity of such repeal cannot be and is not questioned. Second, it provided that state law should not apply to the subject of the type of union-security agreements that Congress had theretofore prohibited and thereafter ceased to prohibit. Plaintiffs argue that Congress unconstitutionally superseded state law be-



cause but for such superseding they would be protected by state right to work laws against being required to pay union dues a part of which gets spent for certain purposes. They concede that the Georgia right-to-work law excepts the railroad industry, but argue that such laws in other states have no such exception, that Congress could not validly supersede such other laws, and the union-shop agreement could not be invalid in some states and valid in others—without explaining why this is so.

We submit it is clear that Congress may validly supersede state law on any subject on which Congress may legislate, and it may legislate on union-shop agreements in the railroad industry. The only issue heretofore raised in such situation is whether Congress intended to supersede, not whether it could supersede state law where it could legislate. Here there is no question of intention; Congress expressly said it intended to supersede. In such situation it is the Supremacy Clause that ousts the state law, and that Clause cannot be unconstitutional.

Section 2, Eleventh intentionally imposes no limitation on the purposes for which dues collected under a union-shop agreement may be spent. Efforts to insert such limitations were unsuccessful. And all courts have agreed that such was the intention.

In *Ry. Employees Dept. v. Hanson*, 351 U.S. 225, this Court reversed the Supreme Court of Nebraska for holding section 2, Eleventh unconstitutional because it permitted union-shop agreements under which dues could be required part of which was used for purposes other than collective bargaining. All the basic facts in this case were present in the *Hanson* case, and the same arguments were made. There is no contention in this case that plaintiffs are required by the union-shop agreements to do anything other than pay uniform dues and fees to be in compliance. And even apart from the *Hanson* case, an employee has no constitutional right to work for a specific employer without

having his dues used in part for political or legislative purposes with which he disagrees. The fact that unions engage in such activities does not require that all who contribute to its funds agree with the union objectives. The numerous cases sustaining the validity of state requirements of integrated bar are typical of this proposition.

Furthermore, legislative and political activities are germane to collective bargaining. Especially in the railroad industry, many of the most vital conditions and benefits of employment are determined by legislation or strongly influenced by legislative and political results. The details of this are extensive.

The holdings below deprived appellants of due process in several respects. Apart from the procedural matters discussed in Appendix A, many of the findings on which the judgment rests have nothing whatever in the record to support them. Other findings are the result only of random speculation, and still others are applied to all the defendant unions although the record explicitly shows that they could be true only of some few of them, in many cases an unspecified few. Such findings are not the result of true judicial process. Further, by making the judgment operative wherever the Southern operates, the judgment below overrules in effect the decisions of the courts of other states which have held these very union-shop agreements valid in those jurisdictions. The courts of Georgia have no such authority.

Another deprivation of due process was entering the judgment in favor of an amorphous "class" the composition of which cannot be determined without reading their minds and thus subjecting appellants to contempt for conduct which they could not have known would violate the injunction which they engaged in it. The sustaining of a class action further denied appellants due process by subjecting all but one of them to suit by persons who had no standing to sue them, that is, by persons not affected by anything any but on which the appellants has done or might do.



## ARGUMENT

### I. INTRODUCTION

Before directing our attention to the merits of this case, it may be profitable to review certain basic legal principles in the light of which the more important issues in this case, and their proper resolution, stand out more clearly.

At common law, in the absence of constitutional or statutory or contractual provisions, an employer may terminate the employment of his employee for any reason or for no reason, no matter how reasonable, unreasonable, or whimsical. Thus, in the absence of a constitutional or statutory or contractual provision, an employer, even a railroad employer, may terminate the employment of an employee because the employee belongs to a union or because he does not belong to a union or for any other reason. Since an employer under such conditions is thus free to impose any condition of employment he sees fit, he may impose any condition because he has agreed with someone else that he would do so. The basic question thus gets reduced to a consideration of whether there is any constitutional or statutory or contractual provision which limits the right of any of the railroad company defendants to terminate the employment of any of the plaintiffs or anyone else in their employ.

Certainly there is nothing in the federal Constitution which limits the right of a railroad to terminate the employment of any of its employees for any reason. Apart from certain procedural or adjective provisions, such as qualification to hold the office of President or Congressman, etc., the Constitution consists of a grant of certain powers to the federal government and restrictions on conduct of the federal or State governments. Nothing in the Constitution limits what conduct may be engaged in by a railroad, such as terminating the employment of an employee for such reason as is sufficient to the railroad.

Nor may any contractual provision be pointed out as infringing the right of any of the railroad defendants to terminate the employment of any of its employees for cause not belonging to a union. On the contrary, the only contractual provision relevant to any such question requires a railroad to terminate employment for such reason.

We thus come to a consideration of statutory or common law principles that may limit the right of a railroad to terminate employment for non-membership in a union, and whether such condition of employment is imposed by a railroad *sua sponte* or because it has agreed to impose such condition of employment.

## **II. A UNION SHOP AGREEMENT IS A LAWFUL AGREEMENT UNDER COMMON LAW AND GEORGIA STATUTES**

In 1947 Georgia enacted its so-called "right-to-work" law. Georgia Code, Chapter 54-9. That statute prohibits employers from imposing as a condition of employment continued employment membership or non-membership in a labor organization.

But the Georgia Right-to-Work Law specifically exempts the interstate railroad industry from its provisions. Code 54-901 provides:

"Definitions.—When used in this Chapter—

(a) the term 'employer' . . . shall not include any person subject to the Railway Labor Act, as amended from time to time . . ."

All the railroads here are subject to the Railway Labor Act (45 U.S.C. 151, *et seq.*). R. 198. Therefore no relief sought in this suit can properly be or is precluded by any provisions of the Georgia Right-to-Work Law. The Georgia statute not only expressly excludes the railroads from its provisions but in effect declares the policy of the State of Georgia to refrain from applying state law to the subject of contracts making employment rights in

way industry conditional upon union membership and to leave such matters to federal law. The exemption from the Right-to-Work Law of railroads covered by the Railway Labor Act, as amended from time to time, expresses the policy of the State of Georgia that the necessity of uniformity of law governing union security issues on the railroads outweighed any state policy with regard to union security. Apparently the Georgia legislature recognized that the harmful consequences of trying to apply forty-eight different state laws to railroads and airlines were greater than any allegedly undesirable aspects of union shop agreements.

The courts below made no reference to the Georgia Right-to-Work law. Nor did they indicate in any respect what Georgia law or policy they were referring to when they found that the practices here involved violated Georgia law.

While it is apparent that the only fair construction of the exemption from the Georgia Right-to-Work Law of carriers subject to the Railway Labor Act, is that Georgia recognized the need for uniformity throughout the country rather than a patchwork of varying state laws, if the exemption is regarded as leaving state common law applicable, the same result follows in this case since union shop agreements were valid in Georgia at common law. For Georgia cases involving union shop or closed shop contracts, in which the court treated the contract as valid without any point even being made that these provisions were in any respect subject to question, see *Savage v. Western Union Telegraph Co.*, 1945, 198 Ga. 728, 735-736, 32 S. E. 2d 785, 789-790; *Jones v. Hearst Consolidated Publications*, 1940, 190 Ga. 762, 10 S. E. 2d 761. Compare *Rainwater v. Trimble*, 1950, 207 Ga. 306, 61 S. E. 420.

Indeed the fact that Georgia found it necessary to enact a Right-to-Work Law, especially since it made it applicable to contracts theretofore entered into (Ga. Code Sec. 54-

904), constitutes a recognition that union shop agreements were valid at common law in Georgia.

There can be no question that at common law, and more recently, union-shop and closed-shop agreements were valid. *Hudson v. Atlantic Coast Line R. Co.*, 375 U.S. 657, 89 S. E. 2d 441, 446; 31 Am. Jur. 876; Restatement of the Law of Torts, vol. I, § 402, A.L.R. 918, 919; 172 A.L.R. 1351, esp. at 1352.

The courts which sustained the validity of union shop and union shop agreements at common law made no distinction with regard to the purpose for which the union used the money collected from employees in violation of a union shop agreement. Indeed, the legal principle which sustained the validity of the union shop agreement at common law precluded any restriction on the use of the money collected. As the Supreme Court of North Carolina held in *Hudson v. A.C.L. R.R. Co.*, (1955) 242 S.E. 2d at 453:

"Beyond question, the right to work is guaranteed to every person. But employment of one person by another is not so guaranteed. In the absence of legislation, an employee's right to work is determined by the terms of his employment contract. If the contract provided that the employee might be discharged for any reason or none . . ."

Since the employer at common law could not impose any condition of employment which would discriminate against the union, so the employer and the union at common law could by joint agreement fix any condition of employment. *Williams v. Quill*, 1938, 277 N.Y. 1, 9, 550, appeal dismissed, 303 U.S. 621; *Rown v. Guernsey Breeders' Co-op*, 1947, 194 Misc. 7, 272, 274. Cf. *Parker v. T. Smith & Son, Ct.*, 70 So. 2d 893, 896; *Greenwald v. Chiarella*, 194, Div. 213, 63 N.Y.S. 2d 49; *Ensley v. Assoc.*, 1943, 304 Mich. 522, 8 N.W. 2d 161, 163-164.

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Co., 242 N. C. 650.

76; 56 C. J.S. 192;

IV, sec. 788; 160

at 1353.

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242 N.C. at 668, 89

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, 9, 12 N.E. 2d 54;

Howard v. N. Y. State

sec. 701, 87 N.E.S. 2d

, Ct. App. La., 1954.

ella, 1946, 271 App.

associated Terminals.

164. The imposition

of closed or union shop conditions hence was valid  
pective of the use made of the moneys secured by  
tioning employment on union membership. Whether  
moneys were used for legislative or political purpose  
immaterial. (See cases discussed, *infra*, Point III, C)

**III. SECTION 2, ELEVENTH DOES NOT VIOLATE THE CO  
TUTION BY PERMITTING UNION SHOP AGREEMENTS  
UNDER WHICH DUES MAY BE USED FOR LEGISLATIVE  
POLITICAL PURPOSES OPPOSED BY SOME WHO PAY  
DUES.**

In 1934, in the Railway Labor Act, Congress imposed  
restriction on the common law right of an interstate  
road to terminate the employment of its employees for  
reason it saw fit. In that Act, Congress left such rail  
free to impose such conditions of employment as they  
fit or might agree to in collective bargaining with o  
tive bargaining representatives except that among  
limitations it forbade the termination of employment  
cause an employee belonged or did not belong to a  
organization. Railway Labor Act, Section 2, Fourth,  
Fifth; 45 U.S.C. Sec. 152, Fourth, Fifth. In 1951 Con  
reconsidered that limitation and repealed it in subst  
part. By the amendment of the Railway Labor Act a  
subsection Eleventh to Section 2, Congress provided  
it no longer prohibited certain types of union shop a  
ments; closed shop agreements, or union shop agree  
not within that description, continued to be prohibited  
far as federal law of itself is concerned, that is all  
Congress did. It repealed its prohibition of the union  
agreement here involved. The argument that such  
of Congress is unconstitutional necessarily comes do  
an argument that the individual appellees have a con  
tional right to have Congress continue to prohibi  
union shop agreement here involved. Obviously, n  
has a constitutional right to have Congress prohibi  
thing.

The fact that Section 2, Eleventh, in repealing in  
the federal prohibition of union shop agreements, do  
limit the purposes for which unions may spend funds

to it by employees pursuant to a union s  
does not render that provision unconstitut

**A. Section 2, Eleventh Intentionally Imposes no  
Purposes for Which a Union May Expend Fe  
lected Pursuant to a Union Shop Agreement**

The court below made no express constr  
2, Eleventh of the Railway Labor Act as a  
shop agreements even though fees and du  
political or legislative purposes. Howev  
struction was implicit in the court's holdin  
Eleventh of the Railway Labor Act was to  
constitutional. The construction that Sect  
of the Railway Labor Act places no limit  
uses which may be made of dues and fees  
union shop agreements is in accord with  
intent.

First, it should be observed that this w  
tion of the Railway Labor Act which was  
the Supreme Court of Nebraska and by th  
*Hanson* case (351 U.S. 225, 160 Neb. 669)  
assumed that the Railway Labor Act, a  
shop agreements although fees and dues w  
for legislative and political purposes. It w  
that the Supreme Court of Nebraska, like  
here, decided that Section 2, Eleventh of t  
bor Act was unconstitutional, and this C  
the case and reversed upon the assumption  
correct interpretation of the statute (see  
B.).

The statute authorizes carriers and labo  
to make union shop agreements with the c  
membership shall not be conditioned on a  
payment of dues, fees, and assessments.  
language reads (U.S. Code, Title 45  
Eleventh):

“Notwithstanding any other provis  
or of any other statute or law of the U



shop agreement,  
national.

no Limitation on the  
Fees and Dues Col-  
lect.

struction of Section  
authorizing union  
dues are used for  
ever, such a con-  
ing that Section 2,  
to this extent un-  
Section 2, Eleventh  
limitations upon the  
ees collected under  
with Congressional

s was the construc-  
as adopted by both  
y this Court in the  
(669). Both courts  
t authorized union  
s were used in part  
It was on this basis  
like the court below  
of the Railway La-  
s Court considered  
tion that this was a  
see *infra*, Point III.

labor organizations  
he one proviso that  
on anything but the  
ats. The pertinent  
45, Section 152.

visions of this Act  
e United States...

or of any State, any carrier . . . and a labor orga-  
tion . . . shall be permitted—

“(a) to make agreements, requiring as a con-  
dition of continued employment that . . . all employees  
become members of the labor organization . . .  
vided, that no such agreement shall require such  
dition of employment with respect to employee  
whom membership is not available upon the  
terms and conditions as are generally applicab  
any other member or with respect to employee  
whom membership was denied or terminated for  
reason other than the failure of the employee to te  
the periodic dues, initiation fees, and assessm  
(not including fines and penalties) uniformly requ  
as a condition of acquiring or retaining membersh

There is no condition or limitation based upon the us  
which the labor organization puts the fees, dues, and  
essments. Congress, when it was holding hearings on  
debating the Union Shop Amendment to the Railway  
bor Act, repeatedly had urged upon it the argument  
it was unfair to require an employee as a condition  
employment to pay dues and fees which are used for  
litical, legislative, or insurance arrangements with w  
the employee is in disagreement. Thus, in opposing  
adoption of the Union Shop Amendment to the Rail-  
Labor Act, Mr. Daniel P. Loomis, then Chairman of  
Association of Western Railways, testified before the  
ate Subcommittee on Labor and Public Welfare as fol-  
(Hearings on S. 3295, 81st Cong. 2d Sess., on May 23,  
pp. 316-317):

“Without any limitation upon the right of the  
ganizations to levy dues, fees, or assessments . . .

“Such funds as were thus raised could be used  
discriminately by the organizations and in many  
solely at the discretion of the officers of the orga-  
tions. We have seen recent instances where f  
from one organization have been tendered to another  
organization for the alleged benefit of some gen-  
purpose or for political purposes.”

Similarly see the following colloquy Thomas, Chairman of the Senate Committee on Hearings, and Mr. Jacob Aronson, Vice President of the New York Central Railroad Company (ibid. pp. 173-174):

"... there is the further consideration that the proposal does not even limit the number of dues, fees, and assessments that may be levied by the particular union.

The Chairman: Would you like to see the Government enact a law that says that no union should have neither funeral dues nor dues for such dues? ...

The Chairman: That is the way to do it, but would you like to have us legislate a limitation of fees and rules?

Mr. Aronson: You mean, if you prohibit funeral shop?

The Chairman: Yes.

Mr. Aronson: I say, if you prohibit funeral shop it would seem to me there would be no regulations.

The Chairman: For example, would you like us to get into the field where we say that no union must never give pensions, to corporations no pension bigger than 1 percent of their earnings, like that? ...

The Chairman: But there is an amendment that the General Government is going to say that no union must not have funeral dues, or they must not have profits, or they must not have any of these little dues that they take up for general expenses, something of that nature."

Congressman Hoffman, in opposing the proposed Amendment to the Railway Labor Act discussed on the floor of Congress, used as one of the facts the fact that this amendment would be used to increase dues, and assessments for political purposes. Rec. 17049-17050.

between Senator  
committee holding the  
President of the  
*ibid.*, May 15, 1950.

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et during the debates  
of his arguments the  
used to collect fees  
purposes. 96 Cong.

In view of the foregoing, it is plain that Congress  
aware of the arguments with respect to use of fees  
dues collected through union shop agreements and  
erately refrained from imposing any restriction on the  
of such funds for purposes to which an employee  
be opposed. To the extent that the use of union funds  
building up "war chests" for political candidates, p  
the same problem as the donations by business corp  
tions to political campaigns, Congress had already c  
with this problem in the Taft-Hartley Act by amen  
the Federal Corrupt Practices Act to apply equally  
unions (U. S. Code, Title 18, Section 610).

During the hearings preceding the enactment of  
Taft-Hartley Act, Congress took extensive testimony  
ting forth the alleged abuses of the closed shop and  
union shop to coerce employees to furnish funds  
political purposes to which they were hostile. Cecil  
DeMille, whose litigation over his alleged constitution  
right not to have to choose between his job and paying  
assessment to fight the Right-to-Work laws, is set f  
below, testified at length in opposition to permitting un  
to make employment conditional on union membership  
to use dues, fees, and assessments for political purpo  
(Hearings, Senate Committee on Labor and Public W  
fare, on S. 55, 80th Cong., 1st Sess., February 14, 1947,  
796-819, 2059; Hearings, House Committee on Educa  
and Labor, on Amendments to National Labor Relat  
Act, 80th Cong., 1st Sess., February 21, 1947, pp. 1  
1187.) And the Senators and witnesses made repe  
references to the *DeMille* case (Hearings, Senate Com  
tee on Labor and Public Welfare, on S. 55, 80th Cong.  
Sess., pp. 1004, 1452, 2059; Hearings, House Committe  
Education and Labor, on Amendments to the Nati  
Labor Relations Act, 80th Cong., 1st Sess., pp. 1624-1  
93 Cong. Rec. 4135) and argued for and against the  
dom to use a union shop agreement to secure political  
tributions (Hearings, Senate, Committee on Labor  
Public Welfare, on S. 55, 80th Cong., 1st Sess., pp.

1455-1456, 1687, 2065, 2146, 2150, 2401; Hearings, House Committee on Education and Labor, on H. R. 8, etc., 80th Cong., 1st Sess., pp. 64, 350; 1326, 2260, 3015, 3057, 3650, 3701, 3806; 93 Cong. Rec. 3642, 3669, 4885, 4887, 4898, 4889, 5110, 6436, 6437, 6440, 6523, 7488, 7492). During these debates on the floors of Congress the special election editions of Labor were discussed in exactly the context here involved; namely, as a use of funds of employees to support a political candidate which some of those employees might not desire to support (93 Cong. Rec. 6436). Likewise, the role of organizations such as Railway Labor Executives' Association, and the CIO's PAC, which was a precursor of COPE, was similarly debated (93 Cong. Rec. 6436-6438, 6440, 6523).

The Federal Corrupt Practices Act applies only to federal elections. But in a few states there exist similar acts which bar labor organizations from making financial contributions to campaigns. See, for example, Burns Indiana Stat. Ann. Sec. 29.5712; New Hampshire Laws, Ch. 273, 1957 Supp., Chap. 70.2; Purdon's Pennsylvania Stat. Ann. Title 25, Sec. 3543; Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes, Art. 5154a, Sec. 4b, held constitutional in *Federation of Labor v. Mann*, 1945, Tex. Civ. App., 188 S.W. 276; Wisconsin Stat. Ann., 1957, Sec. 346.12.56.

There is, of course, here no evidence and no contention that the defendant unions contributed money to federal political campaigns in violation of the Federal Corrupt Practices Act. Such contention was expressly disavowed. R. 232. Georgia has not seen fit to adopt such an act. Plaintiffs are in effect seeking to have the courts enact for all states such a statute by judicial fiat. And they seek to accomplish this result not by direct judicial legislation but by the compulsion of enjoining a union shop agreement unless the union having such agreement acts in compliance with such non-existent political legislation.

Since the present case has been pending an effort has been made in Congress to secure enactment of legislation giving the plaintiffs the relief they have sought in this case.

In rejecting such legislation Congress made it plain that it was opposed as a matter of policy to enabling employees to interfere with the unions in the use of fees, dues, and assessments for any lawful purpose for which the unions may expend its funds. We believe the views expressed in Congress in rejecting the proposed legislation are additionally persuasive that Congress intended no such restriction. *United Mine Workers v. Ark Oak Flooring Co.*, 351 U.S. 62, 75.

On June 16, 1958, the Senate rejected by a vote of 51 to 30 (104 Cong. Rec. 11347) a proposed amendment to pending labor legislation, which read as follows (104 Cong. Rec. 11330):

"Sec. 503. (a) Any member of a labor organization whose employment is conditioned upon such membership may file a petition with the Secretary requesting that moneys paid as membership dues or fees to such labor organization be expended exclusively for collective bargaining purposes or purposes related thereto. . . .

"(b) When the Secretary shall have determined that such moneys have been so expended, he shall bring in behalf of such petitioner a civil action in any court of competent jurisdiction against such labor organization for the recovery of all the moneys paid by the petitioner to such labor organization during the life of such agreement and for such other appropriate and injunctive relief as the court deems just and proper. Any amount so recovered shall be paid to the petitioner on whose behalf such action was brought and in whose favor judgment was rendered."

In introducing this amendment Senator Potter adverted to the case of *Allen v. Southern Railway Company*, 249 N.C. 491, 107 S.E. 2d 125, then recently decided in the trial court in North Carolina, by name, and gave a long and full description of the proceedings in that case (104 Cong. Rec. 11274-5). Senator Potter, among other things, stated:

"... it seems to me most unfair that when an employee is compelled to join a union in order to continue his employment or to obtain employment, he must pay not only his share of the cost of the union's bargaining processes, but also is compelled to support many other principles, policies, programs and activities to which he may not subscribe, or to which he may be strenuously opposed. . . .

"I think that point was recently brought out in a jury verdict in a North Carolina State court case. . . .

The statements made by the opponents of the bill show they regarded existing legislation as having sufficiently taken care of any problem of use of union funds for political purposes, and that as to the other uses of union funds they believed the will of the majority of the union members should prevail. For instance, Senator Revercomb stated (104 Cong. Rec. 11343):

"The pending amendment, as I understand, is directed at preventing the use of the funds of a labor union for political purposes or for the advancement of any political party. That is a very laudable purpose.

"But in considering the amendment, I raise this question: What would be the effect of the very limited language of the amendment, namely, that the funds shall not be used except 'for collective bargaining purposes or purposes related thereto'? Would such language prevent a labor organization from maintaining a hospital or from using some of its funds for the relief of the sick members?

"Therefore, Mr. President, I have the feeling that the amendment is too limited; that if the amendment were adopted, it would create a bad situation and would work ill effects; that it would not permit a union as an organization to care for its sick members or to maintain hospitals—as we know some unions do."



And Senator Morse stated (104 Cong. Rec. 11338-9):

"This amendment would seek to give encouragement to members of unions who are opposed to majority rule—for instance, if the majority of the union happen to differ from one member on the question of the expenditure of certain funds which the union has authority to spend.

"Are we going to vote that the Secretary of Labor shall have the legislative function of determining what, in his judgment, is for collective bargaining or purposes related thereto?

"What purposes are related to collective bargaining, Mr. President? For instance, consider the public-relations work of a union, to say nothing of the fraternal work that is done by a union among its members. After all, the union shop contract is a legal contract between employers and representatives of the union, in carrying out their constitutional right of freedom of contract in this country. Thus they have entered into a perfectly legal contract.

"Let us consider the public-relations work of a union in a community. Are we to say that a union which participates in civic activities, a union which can always be counted upon in the county or in the community to be of help in every charity drive and every civic program in the community, is not helping its collective-bargaining position and is not doing something directly in relation to purposes connected with collective bargaining?

"Mr. President, I once was the president of the Rotary Club in my hometown. I wish to say that we conducted what we thought were some great civic-betterment programs; and I know the effect on that business community of a union with a social conscience. I know the attitude of that group of business leaders in my home community regarding a union which could be counted upon to support great civic enterprises.

"Mr. President, let me make perfectly clear that under the Taft-Hartley Act, no union can contribute

to a Federal candidate's campaign fund. That would be unlawful. But in this country have we reached a point where a group of men and women who have joined together in a fraternal organization known as a trade union, and who know that a single session of a city council or a State Legislature or of the Congress of the United States can wipe away a great many of the rights which over the years they have earned the hard way in the field of labor relations, can take any interest in political affairs? Have we reached the point, for example, where a union can conduct a program . . . in support of a widened wage, for example, of a fair labor standard act which many unions favor?

• • • • •  
 "How absurd can we be if in one breath we say we are for democracy in unions, and then vote for something that takes away from union members democratic control?"

• Yet if the position of the plaintiffs, and the holding of the Court below, are sound, then all that discussion is wasted; if such position is sound, the efforts to obtain restrictions were superfluous and the rejection of such proposals futile, for under that view the complained-of activities would render a union shop agreement, and any legislation permitting such agreement, unconstitutional. Not in the course of any such legislative activities was such argument even suggested. And if plaintiffs' argument is sound that union expenditures for legislative and political activities render union shop agreements unconstitutional, then all the effort and controversy and election battles over state right-to-work laws have been and are wasted and futile; since unions do engage in those activities, laws to make union shop agreements illegal are superfluous because they would be unconstitutional anyway.

**B. This Court has expressly held Section 2, Eleventh Not Unconstitutional in Permitting Union Shop Agreements Under Which Dues Are Used for Legislative and Political Purposes to Which Some of the employees Are Opposed.**

The Supreme Court of Nebraska in *Hanson v. Union Pac. R.R. Co.*, 1955, 160 Neb. 669, 71 N.W. 2d 526, held that Section 2, Eleventh of the Railway Labor Act was unconstitutional under the First and Fifth Amendments to the Constitution of the United States because it left unions free to use fees and dues collected under union shop agreements for political and legislative purposes to which employees subject to the agreements were opposed. This Court reversed that decision. *Ry. Employees' Dept. v. Hanson*, 351 U. S. 225. Since none of the findings of the trial court and none of the evidence differed in any material respect from the findings and evidence in the Nebraska case, we respectfully urge that the decision of this Court in the *Hanson* case is dispositive here and requires a reversal of the decision below.

An examination of the decision of the Supreme Court of Nebraska in the *Hanson* case shows that its basis of decision was in all respects the same as that of the court below. The Supreme Court of Nebraska stated (160 Neb. at 697, 71 N.W. 2d at 546):

"We think Congress was without authority to impose upon employees of railroads in Nebraska, contrary to our Constitution and statutory provisions, the requirement that they must become members of a union representing their craft or class as a condition for their continued employment. It improperly burdens their right to work and infringes upon their freedoms. This is particularly true as to the latter because it is apparent that *some of these labor organizations advocate political ideas, support political candidates and advance national economic concepts which may or may not be of an employee's choice.*" (Italics supplied)

Again the Supreme Court of Nebraska stated (at 698-700, 71 N.W. 2d at 547):

"For the sake of discussion let us assume the right to require employees in interstate commerce to become members of a union falls under the power of Congress to regulate interstate commerce rather than under the freedoms guaranteed by the First and Fifth Amendments. It is apparent the purpose of the amendment was to get rid of free-riders. A free-rider is an employee who receives the benefits of collective bargaining but does not bear any of the costs thereof because he does not belong to the union which negotiated and secured such benefits. Assuming it would be reasonable to require free-riders to pay their proportionate share of the cost of collective bargaining carried on on their behalf by labor organizations, we do not think the means selected has any real and substantial relation to the object sought to be obtained . . . by requiring him to pay initiation fees, dues and assessments he is required to pay for many things other than the cost of collective bargaining . . .

"... assuming it would be reasonable for it to require all employees receiving benefits from collective bargaining agreements to contribute their proportionate share of the cost thereof, a question not before us, one which we do not decide, we are, nevertheless, of the opinion that it cannot be done in a manner in which it was here attempted. *To require employees receiving benefits from collective bargaining agreements to pay the labor organizations the cost of their initiation fees, dues, and assessments, or to require them to make contributions to any and all varied objects and undertakings in which such organizations are or may become engaged and which have no substantial relation to the object he is required to be obtained.*" (Italics supplied)

Thus the Supreme Court of Nebraska made its findings and holding as below, and for the same reasons. And it did so upon the same type of evidence.

The record in the *Hanson* case showed that union dues were used to pay for subscriptions to Labor (record in Supreme Court, No. 451, October Term, 1955, p. 143, Exh. 10), that Labor issued special election editions urging support of given candidates for public office (*idem.*), and that union dues were otherwise used for political purposes (*ibid.*, pp. 254-256, Ex. 31). There, the record showed that the unions maintained legislative representatives on both the state and national levels whose salaries and expenses incurred in lobbying were paid out of union dues (*id.*, pp. 125, 126, 135, 136, 144, Exs. 7, 9, 10).

The briefs filed by Robert L. Hanson, *et al.* in this Court in *Ry. Employees' Dept. v. Hanson*, 351 U. S. 225, made all the contentions which the plaintiffs here urged upon the court below. In the main brief of Robert L. Hanson, the Statement of the Case contained the following headings, among others:

"(c) The requirement of paying dues to support political activities of the unions." (p. 16)

"(aa) For political and economic propaganda." (p. 16)

"(bb) For the salaries and expenses of lobbyists." (p. 17)

"(cc) To elect candidates for public office." (p. 17)

The same brief under the argument contained the following points among others:

"II. Plaintiffs are deprived of their liberty and property." (p. 58)

"B. Plaintiffs are deprived of their property in the form of money." (p. 67)

"2. The Railway Labor Act provides no restrictions as to the purposes for which the money thus collected may be spent." (p. 67)

"(a) Political activities of the unions are paid for by money from dues, fees and assessments." (p. 68)

The brief describes the manner in which publication "Labor" issues special edition report for specific political candidates (p. 63) how each railway union has its own special addition to Labor (p. 17). It describes through radio programs and other contributions expenditures which unions or their affiliates make for political office (pp. 16-17, 68-71).

From the foregoing it is evident that the *Hanson* case had before it for decision the issue decided by the court below. This Court reached the same conclusion had this issue before it, for it described the State Supreme Court as follows (351 U. S. at 100):

"The Supreme Court of Nebraska held that a union shop agreement violates the Fifth Amendment in that it deprives the employees of the right of free association and violates the Fifth Amendment because it requires the members to pay for membership dues besides the cost of collective bargaining."

And with that record before it, and with the holding below, this Court in the *Hanson* case upheld the enforcement of a union shop agreement with the one here involved, although it was for the purposes for which a union could spend its fees, dues, and assessments collected under the agreement. The Court said (351 U. S. at 100):

"The only conditions to union membership imposed by Section 2, Eleventh of the Railway Labor Act are the payment of 'periodic dues, initiation fees, and assessments.' The assessments that are imposed do not include 'fines and penalties for financial support required relates, the work of the union in the realm of collective bargaining. No more precise allocation of costs to individual members seems to us to be required."

The holding of this Court that no allocation of actual use of initiation fees and dues need be made to individual members seems to us to be correct.



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of union overhead  
to be necessary."

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need be made, but

that they would be regarded as used for a purpose  
"relates" "to the work of the union in the realm  
lective bargaining" is made doubly clear by its st-  
that the holding does not necessarily apply to "in-  
ments" levied to support a particular activity. The  
Court states (351 U. S. at 235):

"If 'assessments' are in fact imposed for purposes  
not germane to collective bargaining, a different  
problem would be presented."

In the instant case no issue with respect to assessments  
is presented. There was no evidence that any of the  
defendant unions has collected any assessments for purposes  
which the plaintiffs found objectionable. cf. *NLRB v. American  
& Lomb*, 1954, 108 N.L.R.B. 1555, where the National  
Labor Relations Board held that a union in setting up a  
optical business had departed from the realm of collective  
bargaining. Thus an assessment specifically to raise funds  
for such a purpose might raise an issue not presented in  
the *Hanson* case, but we have no such issue here.

Although the trial court made a finding in the  
case that the fees and dues collected by the defendant  
unions under their union shop agreements with the  
ant carriers have "been and are being used in substantial  
amounts to impose upon plaintiffs and the class they  
represent, as well as upon the general public, conforming  
those doctrines, concepts, ideologies and programs  
imposed by plaintiffs and the class they represent (cf.  
par. 6), there is no basis, none whatever, in the record  
for such a finding.\* There was nothing in the stipulations  
or exhibits here which afforded the slightest basis for  
finding. Rather the evidence here was in all respects  
the same as that which this Court regarded as  
"forcing ideological conformity" (351 U. S. at 235).  
Indeed the reference in the finding below to the imposition  
upon the general public of conformity to those doctrines

\* See further discussion on this below, Point VIII.

concepts, ideologies, and programs, demonstrating that the exercise of freedom of speech and the viewpoint of the union was a form of conformity. Obviously using funds to pay for or publications does not impose conformity of the employees, equally with each member generally, free to make up his own mind, listen or read or not to listen or read. In *A. Ry. Co.*, 249 N. C. 491, 107 S.E. 2d 125 (1954) (advisement on reconsideration), the Supreme Court of North Carolina said:

"All that defendant unions demand that they pay the ordinary periodic dues and fees uniformly required of all members in such respects, plaintiffs are free to speak and act according to their own desires even if by so doing they act at cross-purposes with defendant unions."

Indeed, if any condition other than the payment of "ordinary periodic dues and initiation fees" is imposed upon any employee, then under the union shop agreement itself the agreement is not applied to such employee. Nothing in this is within the reservation of judgment by the court on the issues presented if dues, fees, or assessments are used as a cover for forcing ideological conformity.

Finally, this Court carefully included "financial support of the collective bargaining unit by all who receive the benefits of its work" (3) (Italics added.) Support of the union, by the bargaining agency, rather than financing solely by the union, is what the Court sustained. The benefits envisioned the employees as enjoying the "work" of the union, not merely its collection of dues.

In the *Allen* case, the Supreme Court of the United States said:

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"This sentence appears in the second quotation: '...more precise allocation of union overhead to individual members seems to us to be necessary.' ...V...not dispel the impression that the meaning of the sentence is that the requirement that unwilling members pay ordinary periodic dues and fees for the support of their collective bargaining agency is a reasonable requirement and that no more precise allocation need be made."

But more compelling than any language used by the Court is the fact that it unanimously reversed a state supreme court for doing just what the Georgia Court did, namely, enjoining enforcement of a union shop agreement because part of the fees and dues is used for political, legislative, charitable, and welfare purposes of which employees may not approve.

The Supreme Court of Nebraska itself has so confirmed the holding in the *Hanson* case. On remand of the case from this Court the plaintiffs there filed a motion for modification of the injunction, rather than its dissolution, as to prohibit only the enforcement of the union shop agreement insofar as it required the payment of money to be spent for purposes unrelated to collective bargaining. They contended that such was the meaning of the *Hanson* opinion. The Supreme Court of Nebraska asked for and received the filing of briefs and heard full argument, and then apparently considered the motion unworthy of discussion, for it denied it in a *per curiam* order without opinion. Similarly, in *Moore v. C. & O. R. Co.*, 198 Va. 140, 14 S.E. 2d 140 (1956), the Court initially affirmed the dismissal of the action by the trial court. Subsequently, the Court denied a petition for rehearing which was based on the same arguments as made to this Court on petition for rehearing in the *Hanson* case, including the use of funds derived from dues for political purposes.

Likewise, in *Sandsberry v. Intl. Assn. of Machinists*

\* Not reported. Supreme Court of Nebraska, General No.

S.W. 2d 412, cert. den. 353 U. S. 918 (To it was argued, that this Court's decision in this case did not govern a situation where the unions spent a portion of their funds for legislative purposes. The Supreme Court concluded that such facts were before the Court and rejected the contention, holding the *Hanson* case controlling.

The Supreme Court of North Carolina reached the same conclusion in a case involving the same facts and circumstances involved here, the same unions, and in part the very people whom plaintiffs claim to represent. *Allen v. Southern Ry. Co.*, 195 S.E. 2d 125 (1959) (now under advisement for reconsideration). That Court, examining the facts of this Court in the *Hanson* case, in the light of the facts and contentions made, and in the light of the decision of the Supreme Court of Nebraska in the *Hanson* case, served that "the appellees in *Hanson*, appear to have drawn into sharp focus the issues pressed by plaintiffs," and concluded:

"... the very questions now raised before the Court and decided in *Hanson* in the words upon which plaintiffs rely, the facts in the text, do not support their contention."

Thus the highest courts of five states have rejected the arguments that the decision of this Court in the *Hanson* case did not apply to the validity of union dues where it is shown that the unions engage in legislative activities. Only the Court in the *Hanson* case made that argument. The Supreme Courts of North Carolina, Texas, and North Carolina rejected the argument of the *Hanson* opinion.

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**C. Apart from the *Hanson* Case, an Employee Has No Constitutional Right to Work for a Specific Employer Without His Dues Used for Political or Legislative Purposes with Which He Disagrees.**

The Court below found that enforcement of the union shop agreement deprives the plaintiffs of their property and liberty under the First, Fifth, Ninth, and Thirteenth Amendments to the Constitution of the United States. Since obviously the plaintiffs have no constitutional right to employment with any of the defendant railroads, denial of that employment pursuant to an agreement does not infringe any of their constitutional rights.

In the famous case of *DeMille v. American Federation of Radio Artists*, 77 A.C.A. 430, 175 P. 2d 851, affirmed 31 Cal. 2d 139, 187 P. 2d 769, certiorari denied, 333 U. S. 811, all the judges who considered the case in the trial court, the intermediate appellate court, and the Supreme Court of California sitting *en banc*, unanimously held that DeMille had no legal remedy to protect him from being required under a union shop contract to pay a union assessment to oppose a State Right-to-Work law or lose a \$98,200-a-year contract with the Columbia network. The Supreme Court of California wrote an elaborate opinion in which it considered all the numerous legal theories advanced by illustrious counsel for DeMille. The Court held that opposing a Right-to-Work law was not outside the scope of the union's authority as set forth in its constitution and by-laws. The Court further held that using funds raised by assessments on members for that purpose was likewise within the union's proper functions.

With respect to the contention that the union, by causing DeMille's loss of employment because of his refusal to contribute his money to oppose legislation in which he believed, had violated his constitutional rights, the Court said (31 Cal. 2d at 147, 148, 150; 187 P. 2d at 775, 777):

"The plaintiff next contends that the levy of the assessment and the consequent suspension upon

refusal to meet it, infringed his constitutional right of suffrage, freedom of speech, press and assembly . . .

"The ground of the plaintiff's assertion is that his payment of the assessment would be an expression on his part contrary to his personal beliefs . . .

" . . . payment by the plaintiff of the assessment—would not stamp his act as a personal endorsement of the declared view of the majority. Majority rule necessarily prevails in all constitutional government . . . else payment of a tax levied for a duly authorized and proper objective could be avoided by the mere assertion of beliefs and sentiments opposed to the accomplishment thereof. In a government based on democratic principles the benefits as perceived by the majority prevails . . . Other organizations, such as Medical Associations, Bar Associations, and the like, have used their funds to support favorable legislation or defeat measures considered in the opinion of the majority or its duly authorized representatives to be inimical to the public interest or to its own welfare. It has never been considered that a difference of opinion with the association as to the use of association funds for such purposes, where otherwise lawful, was a matter for judicial interference."

The reference to the use by bar associations of funds for legislative purposes offers a strong analogy. As this Court pointed out in the *Hanson* case (351 U. S. at 238):

"On the present record, there is no more an infringement or impairment of First Amendment rights than there would be in the case of a lawyer who by state law is required to be a member of an integrated bar."

Not only have the courts refused to permit members to enjoin bar associations from participating in campaigns to elect to political office approved slates of candidates for judgeships and positions of states attorney (*La Belle v. Hennepin County Bar Ass'n*, 1939, 206 Minn. 290, 297-298, 288 N.W. 788, 792; *Smith v. Higinbotham*, 1946, 187



Md. 115, 129, 48 A. 2d 754, 761) but they have sustained as against claims of constitutional violation, statutes making the practice of law conditional upon belonging and paying dues to an integrated bar. Of especial interest is the history of the integrated bar in Wisconsin. There the Supreme Court of Wisconsin at first denied the petition for integration of the bar because of the use of dues to maintain a legislative agent. *In re Integration of the Bar*, 1946, 249 Wis. 523, 529-530, 25 N.W. 2d 500, 502-503.

The court thereafter reversed itself and granted the petition to integrate the bar for a two year trial period when it was shown that too substantial a minority of the lawyers in the State had failed to join bar associations. See *In re Integration of the Bar*, 1956, 273 Wis. 281, 77 N.W. 2d 602, 603.

On December 22, 1958, the Supreme Court of Wisconsin issued another opinion (*In re Integration of the Bar*, 5 Wis. 2d 618), which made the integrated bar permanent in Wisconsin. The court found it satisfactory. In this respect the court rejected the argument that integration interfered with the independence of lawyers, stating (at p. 623):

"The integrated Bar does not destroy either the independence of the Bar or of the individual lawyers. The State Bar of Wisconsin was not intended to control and there is no evidence or intimation that it has controlled or attempted to control the thinking of any of its members. When the State Bar Association of Wisconsin through its Board of Governors, an elected representative policy-making body, duly decides a policy within its province on behalf of the State Bar every one understands or should understand the policy is that of the State Bar as an entity separate and distinct from each individual. Such pronouncement of the State Bar does not necessarily mean all of its members agree with that pronouncement, nor is it necessary for them to do so. Individual members are free to think and to express their own opinions. But it is the nature of a representative democratic organization that the elected representatives of the group

speak and act for it in accordance with its organic laws."

The court expressly overruled all of the statements in any of its earlier opinions which had placed any restrictions on the purposes for which the integrated bar could expend funds. 5 Wis. 2d at 626.

The arguments which have been rejected by the court in upholding integration of the bar and suspending or disbarring attorneys who failed to pay dues are in all respects similar to the arguments made by appellees here. See *In re Florida Bar*, Fla., 1952, 62 So. 2d, 20, 23. Similarly see *In re Mundy*, 1942, 202 La. 41, 11 So. 2d 398, where a lawyer refused to pay dues to an integrated bar on the ground that he had the constitutional right to belong or not belong to a bar association. Compare William Wicker, *The Pros and Cons of an Integrated Bar*, 23 Tenn. Law Rev. 457, 459 (December 1954) where William Wicker, Dean of the Law School of the University of Tennessee states:

"The must-be-a-member and the must-pay-dues provisions in the enabling acts of integrated bars have been passed on many times by the courts and every court that has considered them has held them valid."

"People ex rel. Karlan v. Culkin, 248 N.Y. 465, 47 162 N.E. 487 (1928); *In re Disbarment of John D. Greathouse*, 189 Minn. 51, 248 N.W. 735 (1933); *Carpenter v. State Bar of California*, 211 Calif. 358, 295 Pac. 23 (1931); *Kelley v. State Bar of Oklahoma*, 148 Okla. 282, 298 Pac. 623 (1931); *In re Gibson*, 35 N. Mex. 550, 561, 4 P. 2d 643 (1931); *In re Integration of Nebraska, State Bar Ass'n*, 133 Neb. 283, 275 N.W. 265 (1937); *In re Integration of State Bar of Oklahoma*, 185 Okla. 505, 95 P. 2d 113 (1939); *Petition of Florida State Bar Ass'n*, 40 So. 2d 902 (1949).

See also cases collected 114 ALR 161, 151 ALR 617.

Although the integrated bar cases rely on the alleged distinction between special privilege callings and common callings, this issue is irrelevant once it has been accepted

that even persons in a common calling can be required to belong to a union and pay dues and fees to it as a condition of continued employment. No one disputes that this Court in *Hanson* (351 U. S. 225) settled at least that issue. Lawyers have the same constitutional rights of freedom of association, freedom of speech, freedom of thought, and freedom from arbitrary restrictions upon their right to earn a living by practicing their profession as do all other persons. Compare *Ex parte Garland*, 1867, 4 Wall. 333, 379-380; *Schwabe v. Board of Bar Examiners*, 1957, 353 U. S. 232, 238-239; *Konigsberg v. State Bar*, 1957, 353 U. S. 252. If it is constitutional to require lawyers as a condition of practicing their profession to pay money to be used to advocate policies, ideas, legislation, or candidates for judgeships irrespective of the lawyer's opposition to having his money used for purposes with which he disagrees, then it is equally constitutional to permit carriers and unions to enter into union shop agreements under which dues and fees may be used for purposes with which the employee disagrees. If the reasoning of the Court below is sound, then the recent sharp debate in Georgia legal and legislative circles about an "incorporated" bar was but an academic discussion; had the legislature enacted it the Supreme Court of Georgia would have stricken it as unconstitutional, under such reasoning.

More than half of the states have integrated bars.\* In

\* Alabama (1923, Statute); Alaska (1955, Statute); Arizona (1933, Statute); Arkansas (1938, Constitutional amendment and Court rule); California (1927, Statute); Florida (1949, Court rule); Idaho (1923, Statute); Kentucky (1934, Statute and Court rule); Louisiana (1940, Statute and Court rule); Michigan (1935, Statute and court rule); Mississippi (1930, Statute); Missouri (1944, Court rule); Nebraska (1937, Court decision); Nevada (1929, Statute); New Mexico (1925, Statute); North Carolina (1923, Statute); North Dakota (1921, Statute); Oklahoma (1939, Court decision); Oregon (1935, Statute); Puerto Rico (1932, Statute); South Dakota (1931, Statute); Texas (1939, Statute and Court rule); Utah (1931, Statute); Virgin Islands (1956, Court

view of the reliance upon the integrated bar analogy in this Court in the *Hanson* case (331 U. S. at 238) and the Supreme Court of California in the *DeMille* case (Cal. 2d at 150, 187 P. 2d at 777), we submit that the spread commendation of judges and lawyers of their practices of taking funds from every lawyer in the state, using these funds for purposes including propaganda, legislation, and political activity, shows there is no constitutional basis for the ruling below. That judges and lawyers throughout the country practice among themselves the exclusion from the practice of law of anyone unwilling to pay money to be used for propaganda, legislative and political activity with which he disagrees, shows how completely harmonious with our legal institutions and practices condemned by the court below. Indeed, the validity of a union shop agreement would appear to be *fortiori* proposition if an integrated bar is valid, for the latter unquestionably comes into being by government action,—a legislative act or judicial decree or both,—while a union shop comes into being by private agreement.

It may be argued that the political activity of the integrated bar is largely confined to endorsement of judicial candidates. But once it be held that a man's right to a living by following his chosen profession can constitutionally be conditioned upon his being a member of an association and upon his paying fees and dues to that association for purposes to which he is opposed, the nature of the restrictions or activities to which he is opposed does not seem relevant to the constitutionality of requiring him to join and pay fees and dues. If the association exceeds its proper function his remedy is not to attack compulsory membership or dues payment but to remedy or prevent such other improper activities. There is at least as much interference with a man's freedom of association, freedom of the

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rules); *Virginia* (1938, Statute and Court rule); *Washington* (1933, Statute); *West Virginia* (1945, Statute and Court rule); *Wisconsin* (1957, Court rule); *Wyoming* (1939, Statute and Court rule).

and freedom of speech in requiring him to pay dues to a union which strikes to secure a collective agreement for a 35 hour week or compulsory retirement at age 70 or strict seniority, as in the union activities considered below. Cf. *Lamon v. Georgia Southern Railway Co.*, 1955, 212 Ga. 63, 90 S.E. 2d 658; *McMullans v. Kansas, Okla., & G. Ry. Co.*, (E. D. Okla., 1955), 129 F. Supp. 157, 159, aff'd (10 Cir. 1956) 229 F. 2d 50, cert. den. 351 U. S. 918; *Goodwin v. Clinchfield R. Co.*, 1954, 125 F. Supp. 441, aff'd (6 Cir. 1956), 229 F. 2d 578, cert. den. 351 U. S. 953. Compelling financial support of a union involves just as much if not more infringement on freedom in the sphere of supporting different policies in negotiating agreements and processing grievances as occurs in the legislative or political sphere; in the negotiating field the impact of the union's activities on the individual is direct and binding. Groups of employees within the same bargaining unit have opposing interests in seniority, hours of work, piece work as against straight hourly rates of pay, etc. The compulsions which the court below accepts as constitutional when applied to the realm of negotiating contracts and processing grievances are not constitutionally less objectionable than the activities the court below finds unconstitutional. It is thus apparent the court below has refused to accept the principle of the union shop, not that it has dealt with anything not inherent in the union shop.

While the *DeMille*, *Hanson*, *Allen*, *Sandsberry*, and *Moore* cases are the only cases dealing with the constitutional right of an employee not to have his right to a given job conditioned on payment of fees and dues to be used for legislative or political purposes to which he is opposed, in a line of cases arising under the Union Shop Amendment to the Railway Labor Act the courts have denied employees relief, holding as against all variety of constitutional challenges, that the making and performance of a union shop agreement identical with the agreements involved here did not constitute governmental action. In several cases the plaintiffs were members of a religious

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sect which forbade union membership. They invoked the First Amendment. The courts did so on the ground that union shop agreements are beyond constitutional limitations because their exercise by private parties does not constitute the exercise of governmental power. In *Ottens v. B. & O. R. Co.* (C. A. 2, 1953), Judge Learned Hand, in so saying (at p. 61):

"... Ottens complains that the other employees are not in their interest to combine and are not willing to work with anyone who will not combine with them. It is true that in so doing they exercise a kind of economic sanction upon the employer who will not employ him unless he will join, but this is a result of combination and the railways' refusal are not a result of it. It be because they conflict with his scruples that the conflict results in making it necessary either to yield what it deems to be one of its interests—a 'union shop' with the consequence that it gives them in dealing with a railway company. The plaintiff to yield on a point of conscience. Conflicts are inevitable; and, when to economic sanction no political sanction is added, they do not raise any constitutional question.

"The First Amendment protects one's freedom of religion by the government, though even then, in certain circumstances; but it gives no one the right to interfere in the pursuit of their own interests or to interfere with their conduct to his own religion. A man might find it incompatible with his religion to live in a city in which open saloons are permitted, yet he would have no constitutional right to demand that the saloons must be closed. He would have to leave the city or put up with the *iniquitous* and the *immoral*. What economic loss his change of domicile would cause. We must accommodate our idiosyncrasies as well as secular, to the compromise of our religious life; and we can hope for no reward for this may require beyond our satisfaction or our expectations of a better world. (omitted; emphasis the Court's.)



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To the same effect, see later decisions in this case  
F. Supp. 836; aff'd, 2 Cir., 1956, 229 F. 2d 919, certiorari  
denied, 351 U. S. 983.

And, in *Wicks v. Sou. Pac. Co.*, and in *Jensen v. Pac. R. R.* (S. D. Calif., 1954), 121 F. Supp. 454; Cir., 1956, 231 F. 2d 130; certiorari denied, 351 U. S. 983. The Court similarly rejected the contention that shop agreement executed pursuant to the Union Shop Amendment to the Railway Labor Act, deprived plaintiffs of rights under the First Amendment, stating (at 130):

"... As a separate reason for denying relief we hold that the plaintiffs are not entitled to protection of the First Amendment to the United States Constitution because that amendment protects only congressional action and it is not shown here that the action complained of is congressional. [*Reynolds v. United States*, 98 U.S. 145 (1878)]."

The Supreme Court of North Carolina, in *Hughes v. A.C.L. R.R.*, 1955, 242 N.C. 650, 89 S.E. 2d 441, cited the *Ottens* and *Wicks* cases with approval, stating (242 N.C. 666, 89 S.E. 2d at 452):

"... the Act of Congress does not compel or coerce a union shop. As pointed out by Judge I. Hand, it is 'permissive,' not 'self-operative.' The ground that the first ten amendments to the Constitution of the United States protect against congressional action and are not limitations upon the acts of private parties, *Corrigan v. Buckley*, 271 U. S. 323, 46 S.Ct. 521, 70 L. Ed. 969, it has been held, as against challenge on constitutional grounds not alleged here, that a railroad employee's constitutional rights are not infringed by the Union Shop Amendment. *Wicks v. Baltimore & O. R. Co.*, *supra*; *Wicks v. Southern Pac. Co.*, D.C.S.D. Cal., 121 F. Supp. 454; ...

For similar cases in accord under the Railway Labor Act, see *Sandsberry v. I.A.M.*, 1954, 277 S.W. 2d 412, affirmed, Texas Sup. Ct., 1956, 295 S.W. 2d 412, certiorari denied, 353 U. S. 918, and *Moore v. C. & O. R. Co.*

mond, Va., Hustings (Ct., 1954, 34 L.R.R.M. *curiam*, 1956, 198 Va. 273, 93 S.E. 2d 140. accord under the Labor Management Rel. U.S.C. 151, *et seq.*) see *Hess v. Petrillo*, 259 Cir., 1958). For earlier cases sustaining closed shop agreements as against constitutions, see *International Association of Machinists*, 1943, 153 Fla. 672, 15 So. 2d 485; *W* 1938, 277 N.Y. 1, 12 N.E. 2d 547, appeal U. S. 621.

There is no case to the contrary except below in this case. Every other case that contrary has been reversed on appeal.

#### IV. THE LEGISLATIVE AND POLITICAL ACTS OF APPELLANT UNIONS ARE GERMANE TO BARGAINING.

As one of the bases of its order the trial court found that "the exaction of moneys from plaintiffs and their representatives for the purposes and activities described herein are not reasonably necessary to collective bargaining for maintaining the existence and position of said plaintiffs as effective bargaining agents or to the benefit of the employees whom said defendants represent of common mutual interest" (R. 103).

This Court in the *Hanson* case (351 U.S. 592) held that it was not passing on the issues which were presented if a union under a union shop agreement "for purposes not 'germane to collective bargaining.'" The opinion shows that the Court's use of "assessments" in its usual sense, as distinct from fees and dues, which are generally used in support of the union. In the instant case the assessments are confined to fees and dues. There is no finding that any assessment for any purpose is proposed by any defendant on anyone. But even in the *Hanson* case is read as meaning that the assessments must be used for purposes germane to collec

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clearly the legislative and political uses here invo-  
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 legislative purposes as here (see Point III, B,  
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It is plain that the legislative and political a-  
 shown by the instant record are germane to collect-  
 gaining once the role of legislative and political ac-  
 the area of securing benefits for railway worker  
 amined. In the railroad industry the efforts of the  
 labor organizations to obtain better economic rewa-  
 their members and protection from the hazards of  
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Railroad employees have obtained through leg-  
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 gained with the carriers in order to obtain an agree-  
 support desired legislation. Surely it cannot serio-  
 argued that a labor union acts within the normal a-  
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 those it represents through an agreement providin-  
 benefits, but acts outside such ambit when, because  
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 other reasons, it obtains the same benefits through  
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The statutory scheme of the Railway Labor Act v-  
 role in collective bargaining which it assigns to po-  
 appointed persons again makes it only reasonab-  
 labor organizations in the railroad industry concern-  
 selves with politics. The National Mediation Board

decisions critical to railway labor (45 U.S.C. 153, First (e), (f), (g), and (1); 155; 156 (a), (b), Third). The Emergency Board, the President of the United States (45 U.S.C. 156), decisions critical to railway labor (45 U.S.C. 157) arbitrators appointed by the National Labor Relations Board in many instances in which management and labor agree, make decisions critical to railway labor (45 U.S.C. 157). Neutral referees sitting as members of the Railroad Adjustment Board, appointed by the Mediation Board, make decisions critical to railway labor (45 U.S.C. 153, First (1)). To suggest that unions do not have the same interest in who appoints arbitrators to such positions as they have in negotiating and settling disputes thereunder is completely untrue. Thus legislative, political, and collective activities in the railroad industry have been so intertwined.

Numerous hearings and debates in Congress regarded the efforts of the unions to secure an agreement of the railroads to legislative action. The normal and desirable aspect of collective bargaining was the Railway Labor Act of 1926, the Railroad Unemployment Act of 1937, and numerous amendments to the Railway Labor Act and to the Railroad Unemployment Act have been the result of collective bargaining between railroad unions and the railroads. In many instances the representatives and executives of the unions drafted the legislation and agreed to it before presenting it to Congress. Both labor and carriers joined in lobbying for the legislation, and both were active in hearings and urging it through the legislative process. The origin of the Railway Labor Act is well recited by counsel for the organized railroads in the Hearings before the Committee on Inter-

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Commerce, House, 69th Cong., 1st Sess. on H. R.  
9, 11:

"This bill which has been introduced in the  
in the Senate simultaneously represents th  
of months of negotiations and conferences be  
representatives of 20 railroad labor organiza  
the Association of Railway Executives repres  
representing the great majority, practically  
carriers by railroad.

"Almost everything in this act could have bee  
into an agreement signed by the executives of  
roads and the executives of the organization  
poyees and put in force and effect. Excep  
creation of certain Government tribunals."

The description of the origin of the Railroad Re  
Act of 1937, in hearings before House Committee  
state and Foreign Commerce, 75th Cong., 1st S  
H. R. 6956, (1937) as set forth by Mr. George M. F  
President, Brotherhood of Railway Clerks, is as  
(pp. 10-12):

"In view of that litigation and the uncertainty  
future of the legislation the President of the  
States wrote a letter to the representatives of  
ways and also to myself in the month of Decem  
and suggested, in view of the many efforts  
been made to pass railroad retirement legisla  
the resulting legal controversies, that he would  
that the railways and the representatives of t  
ers undertake to consider the subject of re  
legislation in conference and see if they could  
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although intermittently, until the 18th day of F  
at which time the representatives of the two  
reached an agreement, and that agreement re  
the preparation of the bill which is now un  
sideration by your honorable committee,

"Now I should say that this committee had reported from time to time to their constituent organizations, making up the association, and at the meeting which was held in Cincinnati, Ohio, on March 5, 1937, at which time a copy of the bill and the agreement underlying the bill was submitted to the heads of all of the 21 unions, and the President of the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen was personally in attendance at that meeting and after some 8 or 9 hours of extended explanation of the bill and the agreement the 21 unions unanimously endorsed the proposed legislation and the agreement,..."

Full texts of the letter of President Roosevelt and the agreements above described appear in Hearings before Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce, House of Representatives, 79th Cong., 1st Sess. on H. R. 1362 (1945), Pt. II, pp. 643-656. The President of the Association of American Railroads testified in 1945 that he had contemplated that future legislative changes in the Railroad Retirement Act would be subject to the same collective bargaining procedures as the original Act. He stated (*ibid.*, pp. 659-661):

"I have gone into the history of this piece of collective bargaining in some detail, because I believe it offers a picture of joint action between management and labor unparalleled in the industrial record of the United States....

"There was no specific agreement between railroads and railroad labor, at the time of this collective bargaining procedure in 1937, as to future changes, if any, in the railroad retirement plan then agreed upon. However, my own thought at the time, and since, was that any substantial change in the plan would be subjected to the same procedure of collective bargaining. In fact, this seemed to be the thought of all of us, on both sides, at that time."

For other descriptions of the conferences and negotiations between the railroads and the railway labor organiza-



tions which preceded the enactment of the Railroad Retirement Act of 1937, see 81 Cong. Rec. 6084-6085, 6227; 92 Cong. Rec. 8262, 8280, 10093-10004, 10006; Hearings, House Subcommittee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce, on H. R. 9706, 76th Cong., 3d Sess., June 1940, p. 82, Hearings before Subcommittee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce, Senate, on S. 293, 79th Cong., 1st Sess., July 1945, pp. 40-41, 94-95, 119-123, 141, 149, 163, 275, 277; Hearings, House Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce on H. R. 1362, 79th Cong., 1st Sess. (1945), pp. 338-340, 343-345, 417-418, 478, 643-656, 659-663, 665, 676-677, 683, 685-686, 699, 795.

The railway labor organizations and the railroads negotiated extensively with respect to a federal railroad unemployment insurance act. (See Hearings before a Subcommittee of the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce, House, on H. R. 10127, 75th Cong. 3d Sess., May and June, 1938, pp. 21, 146, 203; Hearings, before House Subcommittee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce on H. R. 9706, 76th Cong., 3d Sess., June 1940, pp. 82, 83; Hearings before Senate Subcommittee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce on S. 293, 79th Cong., 1st Sess., July 1945, pp. 94-95; Hearings, House Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce, on H. R. 1362, 79th Cong., 1st Sess., March 1945, pp. 699-700, 948). They were unable to reach an agreement on the original act but they did reach agreement on the various amendments which were adopted before the statute went into actual operation (84 Cong. Rec. 6631). And they continued from time to time to negotiate and bargain about the type of legislation which they desired the Congress to enact and in 1940 reached agreement on many basic changes in the Railroad Unemployment Insurance Act. Hearings before Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce, House, on H. R. 9706, 76th Cong., 3d Sess., June 14, 1940, pp. 15, 22, 24, 26, 86, 87, 143; 86 Cong. Rec. 5522, 9645, 12877.

The 1948, 1951, and 1957 amendments to the Railroad Retirement and Unemployment Insurance Acts were all negotiated in collective bargaining between the railroads and the railway labor organizations and presented to Congress as agreed-upon bills. Congress adopted the 1948 and 1951 amendments on this basis. With respect to the 1948 Amendment to the Railroad Retirement and Unemployment Insurance Acts, providing for an increase of 20% in the retirement annuities for railroad workers and other improvements, its sponsor in Congress stated (94 Cong. Rec. 7437):

“As I stated when I introduced this bill H. R. 6766, it is the product of an agreement between railroad labor and railroad management. Their action in this instance is indeed a continuation of the spirit of mutual agreement upon which the Railroad Retirement Act of 1937 was based. It will be recalled that the basic railroad retirement system was the result of agreement between labor and railroad management.”

To the same effect see 94 Cong. Rec. 6814-6815, 7439, 7440, 7443-7445, 7933; Hearings, House Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce, on H. R. 6766, 80th Cong. 2d Sess., June 2, 1948, pp. 6-7, 10.

With respect to their agreement on the 1951 amendments to these statutes see the following statement on the floor of the Senate (97 Cong. Rec. 13529):

“Mr. Hill: . . . to be more specific, the Railroad Labor Executives' Association, representing 80% of all railroad employees, and the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen, which represents 9% of such employees, which organizations were sharply in disagreement, are in agreement with the provisions of the conference report. I am happy to advise also that the Association of American Railroads, representing railroad management, is also in accord with the terms of the conference report.”

To the same effect see 97 Cong. Rec. 13642.

When amendments were introduced in 1957 in Congress, their sponsor in the House stated (103 Cong. Rec. 6305):

"Mr. Harris: Mr. Speaker, at the joint request of the Association of American Railroads and the Railway Labor Executives' Association, I am introducing a bill, prepared by the Railroad Retirement Board, to amend The Railroad Retirement Act and The Railroad Unemployment Insurance Act."

A similar statement was made in the Senate. 103 Cong. Rec. 6486.

On the state level similar activity has taken place with respect to all sorts of legislation regarding safety, sanitation, prompt payment of wages, check cashing facilities, and many other matters.

The record is replete with instances of the type of legislation in which labor organizations interest themselves, and in specific legislation in which some of the defendant labor organizations interested themselves. For example, plaintiffs introduced an exhibit to show that the Brotherhood of Railway Clerks engages in efforts to influence legislation of various types in various states. P. Exh. 229. But that document, and succeeding issues of "Legislative Facts" (P. Exhibits 230, 231) show the types of legislation in which that organization interests itself. First and foremost, are the Railroad Retirement and Unemployment Insurance Acts, the railroad equivalents of state unemployment insurance laws and the Social Security Act, as supplemented in other industries by collective bargaining agreements. (The record contains literally hundreds of instances showing the great interest and substantial activity of all the labor organization defendants, as well as other railway labor organizations, in these two subjects.) Another is the Federal Employers' Liability Act. A third type of legislative activity pertains to efforts to equalize the competitive positions of railroads with other forms of

transportation, thus protecting the work of railroad employees. Another is legislation directed to safe reduce the physical hazards of railroad employment. legislative activity in which it engages seeks to protect the purchasing power of wage earners. (Exh. 229, pp.

There are three model bills which this Brotherhood to have enacted in all the States, and has had thus some small measure of success. The first would protect employers that require medical examinations of their employees, a common practice on the railroads, from charging the employees for such examinations. The second would require employers that pay their employees by check to make arrangements under which the employees could cash those checks without being charged a fee. The third would establish certain standards of health and sanitation in working conditions. (Plaintiffs Exh. 229, pp. 6-8).

With respect to state legislative activities of the Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employees, we urge the reading of pages 80 through 82 of the Brief of the defence. Orig. rec. 269-71. All of it would be worth reading. It shows, among other things, the efforts of this organization to obtain through collective bargaining protection of those they represent from the elements while riding track motor cars in all kinds of weather, their inability to obtain such arrangements by agreement with the railroads, and their resort to legislative activities. It also shows that in many states all other workers were protected by certain sanitation and health laws that excepted railroad workers, and the efforts of this organization to remove such exception. It refers to the unsafe and unsanitary housing facilities which many railroads furnish their employees who live for substantial periods in company housing. It describes other types of legislation in which this organization interests itself of obvious direct and immediate concern to the employees it represents.

Any close analysis of the relationship between legislative activity and collective bargaining in the railroad

dustry will disclose that often the legislative device has been used to establish as standards for the minority non-agreeing railroads those standards to which the majority of the carriers are willing to adhere. Instead of securing by agreement with the willing railroads benefits which might place them at a competitive disadvantage with other unwilling railroads, benefits have been bargained or legislated on a national basis for all railroads. In those matters where the conformity of a minority required legislative action or the railroads wanted policing and enforcement by governmental agencies, the majority of the railroads acting through the Association of American Railroads and the majority of employees acting through the Railway Labor Executives' Association have secured legislation which achieved for their collectively bargained arrangements a uniformity and permanence difficult if not impossible to achieve by merely a collective bargaining contract.

Political activity and the expansion of legislative activity beyond mere bread and butter issues for railroad unions have been the necessary consequences of effective legislative activity and the type of regulation of employment relationship which the agreed upon legislation has established. When economic issues are to be decided by Congress or by mediation boards, referees, or national emergency boards appointed by the President or other members of the executive department, labor organizations naturally desire to see officials sympathetic to labor's aims elected to office. Likewise, effective political action requires expansion beyond mere bread and butter issues in order to obtain wider political support to help elect sympathetic officials. These broadened issues can in every instance be traced back to railway labor's legitimate efforts to secure the objectives usually sought by collective bargaining. The history of regulation of railroads by legislation and administrative agencies, with respect not



only to labor relations, but all aspects of the places all collective bargaining efforts in a s which collective bargaining cannot function effectively realistically without legislative and political activity.

In this setting it is apparent that the legislative political expenditures of the defendant unions are directly related to collective bargaining objectives. Proceeding from plaintiffs' arguments logically, we reach the nonsensical conclusion that because the defendant organizations sponsored and supported the enactment of Section 2, Eleventh, the application of that legislation to them is unconstitutional. Under plaintiffs' theory, the way for such legislation to be enacted in an effective manner would have been for the proposition to have arisen spontaneously in Congress and for these organizations to have refused to testify or state their position concerning the application of railroad representatives as the only witnesses.

#### **V. SECTION 2, ELEVENTH VALIDLY SUPERSEDES INCONSISTENT STATE LAW.**

The issues in this case seem clear to us. To us it is clear that Congress repealed its own prohibition, and the validity of such repeal not only cannot be questioned, but is not questioned.

Congress also expressly provided that state law does not apply to the subject of the type of union security agreement which Congress had theretofore prohibited and after ceased to prohibit. Clearly, Congress likewise acted within its authority in declaring its intention to repeal state law. The individual appellees argue that Section 2, Eleventh of the Railway Labor Act was ineffective to repeal state law because it unconstitutionally deprived them of rights they might have under state legislation.

It defies rational analysis to argue, as plaintiffs do, that Congress acted beyond its powers when it repealed state law in a field in which Congress may legislate. The argument necessarily is an argument that the second



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of Article VI of the Constitution of the United States is unconstitutional.

Normally, in cases where the applicability of a state statute is challenged on the ground that it has been superseded by federal legislation in a field in which Congress may legislate, the issue is couched in terms of whether Congress intended to preempt the field. See, e.g., *Napier v. Atlantic Coast Line R. Co.*, 272 U.S. 605, 611; *Rice v. Santa Fe Elevator Corp.*, 331 U.S. 218, 230. In most such situations the answer is obtained by an analysis of "conflicting indications of congressional will". *Garner v. Teamsters Union*, 346 U.S. 485, 488. The problem is one of determining Congressional intent; it has never heretofore been a question of Congressional power to preempt state law in a field where Congress may legislate.

The power of Congress to legislate in the field of labor relations in the railroad industry of course is not subject to question. *Texas & N. O. R. Co. v. Brotherhood of Railway Clerks*, 281 U.S. 548, 50 Sup. Ct. 427; *Virginian Ry. Co. v. System Federation No. 40*, 300 U.S. 515, 57 Sup. Ct. 592. Certainly no one questions today that Congress had the power to prohibit union shop agreements in the railroad industry, as it did between 1934 and 1951. If Congress can legislate in a field, we had supposed that it was unquestioned, until this case was argued, that it could legislate to the exclusion of state law. As stated above, heretofore when this question arose it came up in terms of not whether Congress could supersede state law in a field it was regulating, but whether it intended to do so.

There is no question that in this case Congress intended to supersede state law. It expressly said so. Section 2, Eleventh commences with the words "Notwithstanding any other provisions of this Act, or of any other statute or law of the United States, or territory thereof, or of any State. . . ." Plaintiffs do not argue that Congress did not so intend; indeed, their case is predicated on Congress so intending.

It should hardly be necessary at this time to state that the third clause of Section 8 of Article I of the United States Constitution vests the power to regulate interstate commerce in the federal government. At most, states may regulate such activities only until Congress indicates that a state should not do so. Indeed, in many cases, the absence of federal legislation on the subject, and the invalidation of interstate commerce has been held invalid under the commerce clause on the ground that the failure of Congress to legislate indicated its intention that the subject should not be regulated, or on the ground that national uniformity was required. See, e.g., *Southern Pacific R. Co. v. United States*, 325 U.S. 761, 769, and cases there cited; *Morgan v. United States*, 328 U.S. 373, 386. Thus, to argue that Congress lacks constitutional powers when it preempts state law in a field in which it may legislate is to strike down a federal law because of the existence of state laws,—precisely the opposite of the effect which the Supremacy Clause was intended to achieve. If Congress can validly prohibit or preempt union shop agreements in the railroad industry, if it unquestionably has the power to do, its action cannot become invalid because of an express indication that it intends state laws not to apply. Such indication does not indicate explicitly what otherwise might be argued, that in fact what Congress did or did not do was intended to preempt the field. It is the Supremacy Clause of the Constitution, not the indication by Congress of what it intends, that nullifies any inconsistent state law. *Gibbons v. Ogden*, 22 U.S. 1, 210-11. As indicated above, in many cases no exemption is found without an express provision that state law shall be superseded. See, e.g., *Garner v. United States*, 346 U.S. 485; *Weber v. Anheuser-Busch*, 346 U.S. 468; *Pennsylvania v. Nelson*, 350 U.S. 497, 76 S. Ct. 100, 100 L. Ed. 640; *Public Utilities Comm. of California v. Public Utilities*, 355 U.S. 534, 78 S. Ct. 713, 2 L. Ed. 2d 76. In such cases, once it is determined that a federal statute

to point out of the United States interstate commerce that a state can dictate that a state, even in the state regulation, is invalid under the power of Congress. The subject should be uniformity. *Co. v. Arizona*, *an v. Virginia*, *ess exceeds its laws in a field* federal statute. *ly the opposite was designed* it or refuse to had industry, as tion cannot be ion that it in on only makes hat is, whether ded to preempt e Constitution, intends, which *ns v. Ogden*, 9 any cases pre- sion that state *r v. Teamsters* *Busch*, 348 U.S. 76 S. Ct. 477, *Calif. v. United* 2d 760. In such statute, or some-

times even the absence of a federal statute, conflicts with state provisions, and that Congress evidenced no intention to keep the state laws in effect, it is the Supremacy Clause that nullifies the state laws. The presence in the federal statute of an express intention to supersede merely eliminates argument as to what Congress intended. Since it is the Supremacy Clause of the Constitution that strikes down state laws inconsistent with the congressional will, when Congress may legislate, to argue that by enacting a otherwise valid Congress exceeded its constitutional authority because it replaced state regulation, is nothing more than an argument that the second clause of Article I of the Constitution, the Supremacy Clause, is unconstitutional.

**VI. APPELLANTS WERE DENIED DUE PROCESS OF LAW BY CLASS ACTION BEING SUSTAINED, THE DEFINITION OF THE CLASS, AND JUDGMENT BEING RENDERED FOR SUCH CLASS.**

All the plaintiffs are employed in the craft or occupation represented by the Brotherhood of Railway and Steamship Clerks, Freight Handlers, Express and Station Employees (See *supra*, Statement of the Case, first footnote.) That defendant is thus the only defendant union against whom all of the plaintiffs seek relief for themselves as distinguished from relief for other members of the purported class.

The Stipulation and the Order (R. 101, 167) define the class as those employees and former employees of the defendant railroads who are "affected by *and opposed to* the union shop agreement *who are also opposed to* the use of periodic dues" for the challenged purposes. (Italics applied.) The composition of the class is thus defined by three basic tests, one objective, "affected by" (not simple, but at least more or less objective), and two subjective, "opposed to . . . who are also opposed to," or a combination of these attitudes.

It is obvious that a class suit, in which a judgment binds absent persons, cannot be brought unless the requi-

ments of due process with respect to such p  
fied. *Smith v. Swarmspedt*, 16 How. 288,  
942; *Macon and Birmingham Railroad Co.*  
1, 24; *Hansberry v. Lee*, 1940, 311 U.S. 33  
85 L. Ed. 22. And such determination mu  
upon the basis of allegations, or even admi  
the basis of the facts established. *Pacific*  
*Reiner*, (D.C., E.D. La., 1942), 45 F. Sup  
*Oneida Paper Products Co.*, (D.C., D.N.J.  
Supp. 919; *Goldi v. Jones* (2d Cir., 1944), 14  
*Weeks v. Bareco Oil Co.* (7th Cir., 1941), 12  
interests of the persons in the alleged clas  
of the trial are among the factors to be co  
termining whether a class suit can be mai  
*and Birmingham R. Co. v. Gibson*, 85 Ga. 1,

In the light of these principles, let us exa  
action" further.

**A. A Class, for the Purpose of Adjudicating the  
Persons, Cannot Be Based Upon Mental**

It is well settled that a class action cannot  
for an alleged class whose composition is  
ascertaining the mental attitude (or in th  
bination of mental attitudes) of individual  
case so holding, as well as the leading case  
of class action generally, is *Hansberry v.*  
U.S. 32, 44, where this Court held that a cl  
composed of those signers of a restrictiv  
wished to enforce it where there were oth  
wished to have it declared void. The Court

"It is plain that in such circumstances  
to be bound by the agreement would  
single class in any litigation brought  
Those who sought to secure its benefi  
it could not be said to be in the sam  
represent those whose interests are in  
formance....

persons are satisfied, 301-3, 14 L. Ed. 2d 331, 351 U.S. 33, 85 Ga. 32, 61 S. Ct. 115, must be made not missions, but upon *Fire Ins. Co. v. Supp.* 703; *Cross v. N.J.*, 1954), 117 F. 141 F. 2d 984, 992; 125 F. 2d 84. The class and the locale considered in de-maintained. *Macon* 1, 23, 24.

examine this "class

#### the Rights of Absent Mental Attitudes.

cannot be maintained in is determined by in this case, a com-duals. The leading case on the subject *y v. Lee*, 1940, 311 a class could not be ictive covenant who e. other signers who ourt said:

aces all those alleged ould not constitute a ought to enforce it. enefits by enforcing same class with or are in resisting per-

"Because of the dual and potentially conflicting interests of those who are putative parties to the movement in compelling or resisting its performance, it is impossible to say, solely because they are putative parties, that any two of them are of the same class."

Thus it is fundamental that a class or classes cannot consist of factional groups, as in *Hansberry. Gray v. (D.C., E.D. Mich., 1951)*, 99 F. Supp. 992, affd. 200 F. 2d 103 (6th Cir., 1952); *Horton v. Citizens Natl. Trust Bank*, 86 Cal. App. 2d 680, 195 P. 2d 494 (1948); *v. Radio Corp. of Am.*, (3d Cir., 1950), 183 F. 2d 515. In the last-cited case, some members of a union sought to represent either the whole membership of the union or the members agreeing with them. The court held that a class could not be sustained on either theory, because the plaintiffs could not be said to represent all members of the union and any smaller group classified solely on the basis of attitude was not a class. The court said:

"It follows that the suit cannot be sustained as brought on behalf of the whole membership of Local 103 as a class. Nor can it be sustained as brought on behalf of all members of Local 103 with the exception of defendants Leto and Fox and those members who are in concert with them. This is but another way of describing those members of the Local who are not in agreement with the plaintiff. To sustain such a class as may support a true class suit would be too ill-defined and ephemeral in make-up. To sustain it would agree with the plaintiff today may be persuaded tomorrow to take sides with his opponents in the future. In a true class suit the plaintiffs stand in judgment of the class and a judgment for or against the class benefits or binds each member of the class pursuant to the principle of res judicata. The members of the class must, therefore, be capable of definition as being either in or out of it. Such a definition would not be possible in a case, such as this, involving fluid fractional groups in a labor union.



Since the plaintiffs obviously could not send all the employees in their craft, carve out a group of persons who think alike subjects, and the Courts below found such alike people, covering 14 states, the District and other places, represented by one of the plaintiffs and five intervening plaintiffs who had been in the almost six years this case had been

Authority for a class action in Georgia  
Section 37-1002 which provides:



ined at all, must be  
ff for his own benefit

International Alliance  
1950; 183 F. 2d 685,  
Fitzgerald v. San-  
app. 438; Most Wor-  
Sons of Light Lodge  
164 (1953).

not purport to repre-  
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District of Columbia,  
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ted class may change  
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We know of no prior  
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eorgia is found in Code

"Members of a numerous class may be rep-  
a few of the class in litigation which effects  
of all."

Although the question appears not to have been  
decided in Georgia, it has some significance that  
from which *Code Section 37-1002* was derived  
consisted of the citizens of a municipality, a g-  
tainable by objective standards, *Macon and B-*  
*Railroad Company v. Gibson*, 85 Ga. 1, 23 (1890);  
*Martin, Inc. v. Anderson-McGriff Hardware Co.*  
291 (1938).

It is more significant that in the cases even  
in which class actions have been approved, the  
ways been, until this case, objective standards  
measure or determine the class. Thus, class a-  
been held appropriate in litigation involving c-  
municipality (*Macon and Birmingham Rail-*  
*Gibson*, 85 Ga. 1 (1890)); property owners i-  
(*Kimzey v. Michel*, 191 Ga. 158 (1940)); heirs  
deceased person (*McDougald v. Williford*, 1-  
(1854)); creditors of a business (*Schley v. Di-*  
273 (1857); *Allen v. Grant*, 122 Ga. 552 (1905)  
*Wright*, 147 Ga. 662 (1918); *Columbus Iron Wor-*  
164 Ga. 121 (1927); *Clark Milling Co. v. Sim-*  
55 Ga. 505. (1923)); policy-holders of a mutua-  
company (*Carlton v. Southern Mutual Ins. Co.*,  
(1884)); members of unincorporated voluntary s-  
(*O'Jay Spread Company v. Hicks*, 185 Ga. 507 (1-  
*ard v. Betts et al.*, 190 Ga. 530 (1940)); and me-  
church (*New Mission Baptist Church v. City*  
*et al.*, 200 Ga. 518 (1946); *Slaughter v. Land et*  
156 (1942); *Bates v. Houston*, 66 Ga. 198 (1880)  
in the case last cited there was a division in  
membership, the minority group had been ider-  
physical seizure and use of the church property

The members of the class found by the trial court in this case are anonymous, free to move in or out of the class with each National, State, or local election, each disputed issue, each change of opinion, each passing day. Those who are in this class today may be out of it tomorrow. Each affected person remains free to elect or reject the class even after judgment is rendered. Until the class becomes fixed so that the members can be definitely identified, there can be no essential common interest and common right. The significance of this to the union defendants is that they cannot know whose rights have been adjudged adversely to the union defendants even after the final judgment and decree. Thus it subjects them to being held in contempt for violating the injunction without knowing they have done so; they may enforce the agreement against certain persons believing them to be outside the purported class, and be wrong in such belief,—and thus be penalized for lacking clairvoyance. This situation, or potential situation, reveals perhaps as clearly as any case the soundness of the rule that a class cannot be based upon mental attitudes.

**B. A Class Action May Not Be Maintained Unless It Can Be Determined at the Time the Decree Is Rendered What Persons Are Bound.**

It has been stated that a fair test of the right to maintain a class suit is whether a decree would be binding on absent persons asserted to be members of the class. *Bickford's v. Fed. Res. Bank of N.Y.* (D.C., S.D.N.Y. 1933), 5 F. Supp. 875.

The railroad defendants operate lines in Georgia, Florida, North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, Tennessee, Kentucky, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, and the District of Columbia. (R. 196) There is nothing in the record to show which of the nine railroad defendants operate lines, have employees, or do business, in Georgia.

The decree is not restricted to Bibb County nor to the State of Georgia. It undertakes to operate with respect to all employees of the defendant railroads everywhere who are within the alleged class.

The decree purports to adjudicate rights of individual employees under several union shop agreements, including the right to recover damages by reason of the enforcement of the agreements as to them.

If this were a proper class action, then a judgment against the plaintiffs would be a personal judgment against each member of the class that he had no right to recover initiation fees, dues, and assessments, damages for loss of employment, or even to contest the validity of the union shop agreements. It is established that a judgment in a proper class action precludes all members of the class. *Supreme Tribe of Ben Hur v. Cauble* (1921), 255 U.S. 356, 367, 41 S. Ct. 338, 65 L. Ed. 673; *Hartford Life Ins. Co. v. Ibs* (1915), 237 U.S. 662, 35 S. Ct. 692, 59 L. Ed. 1165; *Knowles v. War Damage Corporation*, (App. D.C., 1948), 171 F. 2d 15; *System Federation No. 91 v. Keed* (6 Cir. 1950), 180 F. 2d 991; *Advertising Specialty National Ass'n v. Federal Trade Commission* (1 Cir. 1956), 238 F. 2d 108; *Bickford's v. Federal Reserve Bank of New York* (1933) (D.C., S.D. N.Y.) 5 F. Supp. 875.

This is true even though all members of the class are not within the jurisdiction of the court where the suit is tried. *Supreme Tribe of Ben Hur v. Cauble* (1921), 255 U.S. 356, 367, 41 S. Ct. 338, 65 L. Ed. 673; *Advertising Specialty National Ass'n v. Federal Trade Commission* (1st Cir. 1956) 238 F. 2d 108, 120. It is principally for this reason that "the members of the class must, therefore, be capable of definite identification as being either in or out of it." See excerpt from *Giordano v. Radio Corp of Am.*, 183 F. 2d 558, 560-1 (3d Cir., 1950), and cases cited *supra* therewith.

Here the class, if it had any members other than plaintiffs, was composed of persons scattered at least over 14 states and the District of Columbia. They were not parties

to the action except through the class device. No notice was made by the plaintiffs or by the Court to give notice by publication or otherwise. The number in the class was not known—and could not be known—each person who otherwise qualified made known his attitude. Yet the Bibb County Superior Court undertook to decide the rights of all of these silent, unidentified persons and to bind them by a personal judgment which affected their property rights. The judgment was in their favor but it might have been adverse. And as we have said, a judgment is binding in a proper class action if it is adverse to the class. The absent members cannot play “heads or tails you lose.” Yet that is exactly what permitting a class action in this case would invite. If plaintiffs win, they could later say they had the requisite mental attitude and were included in the class that won. If plaintiffs ultimately lose, those same persons could say they had different attitudes and attack these same defendants on a different theory. And, supposing plaintiffs lose, how about a plaintiff who did not have those views when this action was pending and adjudicated but acquired those views later? How about that same person if plaintiffs win? We can only speculate on the answers to such questions, but we are to be enjoined we are entitled to know just what we are enjoined from doing.

#### **C. Claims for Damages in Individual Amounts May Not Be Subject of a Class Action.**

Regardless of whether the trial court decided for or against the alleged class represented by the plaintiffs, the court undertook to adjudicate their rights concerning the shop agreements and forever to bind them by its decision. But the impropriety of the class is eloquently demonstrated by the failure of the court to award damages to anyone except to the named plaintiffs. Obviously, the court could not award damages to anyone else unless he came into

identified himself as a member of the class by proving who he was and his state of mind, and proved the amount of the dues, fees, and assessments which he was entitled to recover, or the amount of his damages from loss of employment. Just as obviously, however, members of the purported class without notice of the litigation were not in a position to assert such rights; nor would it be practical, even with notice, for persons residing in Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Missouri, the District of Columbia, Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Alabama, Florida, and elsewhere to assert such rights in the Superior Court of Bibb County, Georgia. The court in its decree felt impelled to state that although it was adjudicating the monetary claims of three plaintiffs it was not adjudicating monetary claims for any others. R. 107. The fact that such statement was necessary reveals the impropriety of maintaining this case as a class action. If the court cannot adjudicate the claims of the entire "class," then the class device is not properly used.

In *Davies v. Columbia Gas & Electric Corp.*, 151 Ohio St. 417, 86 N.E. 2d 603 (1949), which was an action by a plaintiff purporting to represent 700,000 natural gas consumers in the State to recover damages for fraud for secretly diluting natural gas with inert gas, thereby increasing the rates, the court held that a class action would not lie. Similarly, in *Syres v. Oil Workers Union*, 257 F. 2d 479 (5th Cir., 1958), it was held that since "wages are, of course, separately and individually earned," a class action to recover loss of wages could not be maintained. Similarly, see *Pemberton v. Board of Education etc. of Toledo*, 67 Ohio App. 175, 36 N.E. 2d 170 (1940), in which the court pointed out the wage claims were in separate amounts, for different kinds of services, different hours, different rates, and different responsibilities; that some had lost time, some overtime; and each being a claim for money, the defendant may have a special defense as to each which it is entitled

to make in a jury trial. Similar holdings were made in *Schatte v. International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees* (9 Cir. 1950) 183 F. 2d 685, and in *Mason v. National Bronze and Aluminum Foundry*, 159 Ohio St. 112 N.E. 2d 15.

In *Weaver et al. v. Pasadena Tournament of Roses Association et al.*, 32 Cal. App. 2d 833, 198 P. 2d 514 (1948) which was an action by the plaintiffs on behalf of themselves and others similarly situated to recover a statutory penalty for wrongful refusal of admission to the Rose Bowl where the operators advertised 7,500 tickets for sale to the general public and closed the box office after selling 1,500, the Court held that an interest in a common question of law was not a sufficient "community of interest" reason to authorize a class action because determination of the question "would still leave to be litigated the right of each other person to recover on his statutory claim in the event of whether he *in reliance* upon the advertised sale, standing in line, received an identification stub, was denied admission before the promised 7,500 had been sold, presented himself at the Rose Bowl as a 'sober moral person,' demanded admission, tendered the price, and . . . his actual damage as well as was refused, entitling him to recover the statutory penalty of \$100." (Italics supplied)

The Court said further:

"In the present case there is no ascertainable community of interest such as the stockholders, bondholders or creditors of the organization. Rather, there is only a large number of individuals, each of whom may or may not have the care to assert, a claim against the operators of the Rose Bowl Game for the alleged wrongful refusal of admission thereto. . . ."

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\* See also, *Kentucky Home Mut. Life Ins. Co. v. Dulac* (6 Cir. 1951), 190 F. 2d 797; *Trailmobile Co. v. Whirls* (6 Cir. 1954) 154 F. 2d 866, *reversed* on other grounds, 331 U.S. 40, 91 L. Ed. 1001; *Weeks v. Bareco Oil Co.* (7 Cir. 1941), 125 F. 2d 84.

See also, *Young v. Klousner Cooperage Co.*, (1956), 164



The language of the Supreme Court of Georgia in a case involving different substantive issues, *Grand Chapter Order Eastern Star v. Wolfe*, 172 Ga. 346, 349, is appropriate to the great number of diverse claims, claimants, and opinions sought to be included in the class here. In that case the Court, dealing only with claims for wounded feelings, said:

"But is there such a common nexus binding all of these thirty petitioners for damages that it can be said that each one of them having a common interest in the subject-matter, suffered the same injury to his feelings, so as to be compensated in the same amount for injury to his or her reputation? As injury to personal feelings is as variant as the figures produced by the shaking of a kaleidoscope, and the injury to the reputation of one is in each case largely dependent on the particular nature of the reputation possessed by the petitioner, we can not say that the injury inflicted upon any one of the petitioners, so far as feelings and reputation are concerned, is identical to that of any or all of the others."

**D. Plaintiffs Are Without Standing to Sue Any Defendant Union Except the One That Represents Their Craft.**

There are nine railroad or terminal companies and fifteen labor unions named as defendants in the case.

Section 11 of the Union Shop Agreement provides in part:

~~"It shall be construed as a separate agreement by and on behalf of each carrier party hereto and those em-~~

489, 132 N. E. 2d 206; *Wilder v. South Carolina State Highway Department* (1955), 228 S. C. 448, 90 S. E. 2d 635; *Earle v. Webb et al.* (Asbury et al., Intervenor) (1936), 182 S. C. 175, 188 S.E. 798; *Horst Von Roebel v. Sesac, Inc.* (1955), 145 N.Y.S. 2d 697, aff'd 150 N.Y.S. 2d 152 (1956); *Pyper v. Mutual Home & Savings Ass'n* (1938), 35 N.E. 2d 736; App. dismissed, 134 O. St. 345, 16 N.W. 2d 424; *Cavanagh et al. v. Hutcheson et al.*, 140 Misc. Rep. 178, 250 N.Y.S. (1931), aff'd. 259 N.Y.S. 967; *Felten Truck Line, Inc. v. State Board of Tax Appeals* (1958), 183 Kan. 287, 327 P. 2d 836; *Burke et al. v. Illinois Bell Telephone Co.* (1952), 348 Ill. App. 549, 109 N.E. 2d 358.

ployees represented by each organization of said carriers as heretofore stated."

Accordingly, there are separate contracts between separate employers and fifteen separate labor unions which are involved, a large number of agreements.\* One of the plaintiffs is "affected" by those agreements, and the other five plaintiffs by agreement:

The fact that the rights of the persons claiming the purported class arise out of different contracts with different contracting parties would seem sufficient in itself to prevent there being the class found by *Dinkes v. Glen Oaks Village, Inc.*, (1954), 132 N.Y.S. 2d 138; *Adelson v. Sacred Associates Realty Corp.*, 183 N.Y.S. 2d 265; *Pyper v. Mutual Home & Savings Bank of Dayton*, (1938), 35 N.E. 2d 736, appeal dismissed, 35 N.E. 2d 345, 16 N.E. 2d 424; *Kahlmeyer v. Green-Walsh Realty*, (1940) 23 N.Y.S. 2d 17, 27 N.Y.S. 2d 446, 35 N.E. 2d 138, aff'd, 40 N.E. 2d 650 (1942).

Since none of the complaining plaintiffs asks for or could use, any relief against any organization other than the Clerks, or could be given any relief against any other organization, and the agreements to which other unions and not the Clerks are parties cannot harm them, they have no standing to sue any organization but the Clerks. The situation is similar with respect to the relief sought which none of the plaintiffs is employed, even though they have agreements with the Clerks; a union shop established by an employer that is not a plaintiff's employer cannot cause the plaintiffs no legally recognizable harm. It is therefore that defendants against whom none of the plaintiffs can or can obtain relief should be dismissed from the

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\* It cannot be assumed that the total number of agreements is fifteen since the record does not show that each union represents only one carrier on each carrier.

*Lankford v. Dockery*, 87 Ga. App. 813, 75 S.E. 2d 340, 341. One may not have judicial redress for the benefit of a class, in respect of a matter in which he is without interest, right, or duty. *Harrigan v. Pounds*, 246 N.Y.S. 363, 146 Misc. 666 (1933); *Newark Twentieth Century Taxicab Ass'n v. Lerner*, 11 N.J. Super. 363, 78 A. 2d 315 (1951); *State v. Laramie Rivers Co.*, 59 Wyo. 9, 136 P. 2d 487 (1943).

Thus even if a class suit is proper, it must be limited to employees within the craft or class of clerks employed by the two defendant railroads by which plaintiffs are employed. The operation and activities of the defendant unions differ widely, and plaintiffs may complain only of those that concern them. The record shows that the defendant unions have different fees and dues. The publications they issue differ substantially. Some have death benefits, others do not. They contribute to legislative and political activity in widely different degrees and each in its own particular fashion. Some do not participate at all in some of the activities of which plaintiffs complain. Numerous other differences are described below (Point VIII). Those who would represent a class may sue only with respect to matters that affect them, and not with respect to matters that affect only others. See *Harrigan v. Pounds*, 265 N.Y.S. 676, 684-6, 239 App. Div. (1932), where the Court said:

"It seems to us that with regard to the sixty-three deposit agreements to which none of the plaintiffs is a party, they have no capacity to sue to rescind for a fraud perpetrated on parties to an agreement, who claim no fraud and, as far as the record is concerned, are perfectly content with their investments.

"In attempting to maintain this action and to meet this weakness in their position as to the remaining sixty-three agreements, the plaintiffs allege in their complaint, which is upon information and belief, that other persons, though not named as parties herein and

holding and owning similar bonds and ce deposit, have expressed their desire to join in this action, and inasmuch as such persons are numerous and it would be impracticable to call all before the court in the first instance, and as said persons have common interest with the plaintiffs and are similarly situated, this action is brought by the plaintiffs herein on behalf of the entire class in a representative capacity on behalf of all persons and holders similarly situated. . . .

"The appellants point out that this is the only relief claimed in all the papers before the court by the plaintiffs attempt to justify their suit to remove the committeemen under sixty rate and distinct agreements to which none of them is a party and under which none of them has any claims, or interest."

#### **E. Plaintiffs May Not Claim Relief for Others They Claim for Themselves.**

The only relief claimed by plaintiffs for the removal of the union shop is the only relief they could claim upon, the basis of which is injunctive relief against the union shop against the return of dues and fees they had paid pursuant to the agreement. Included in the purported "class" of persons who have undertaken to represent are former employees of defendant railroads whose employment has been terminated for failure to meet the condition of the agreement. Although the order of the Superior Court is clear in this respect, it apparently intended to deny also the rights of such persons to damages, and amounts thereof for such loss of employment, tortious and perhaps even punitive,—damages which the plaintiffs do not claim for themselves.

The claims of plaintiffs and of any persons who may be added as a result of enforcement of the collective bargaining agreements are quite different. It is well established that plaintiffs in a class action may not seek relief for members of the alleged class which they do not

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Of course, this aspect of the Order below is erroneous for the additional reason discussed in Point VI, C, S, that individual claims in individual amounts based on individual facts may not be the subject of a class action.

#### VII. THE APPELLANT UNIONS ACTED WITHIN THEIR AUTHORITY IN EXECUTING THE UNION SHOP AGREEMENTS

The trial court found that the defendant labor organizations acted "without authority from the employees represented by them" and "without affording said employees any opportunity to express themselves with respect thereto," when they entered into the union shop agreements involved. R, 101-2, 230. This finding affords no proper basis for the order enjoining enforcement of the union shop agreements.

Although paragraph 12 of the Stipulation (R. 168) contains statements in substance the same as the quoted phrases, it qualifies the statement concerning absence of authority from the particular employees with "other such authority as might be implied from each labor organization, the defendant being the collective bargaining representative for the purposes of the Railway Labor Act . . .

states also that "the usual processes of unions in determining collective bargaining followed," a further qualification omitted.

The authority of the defendant unions to bargain representatives for the respective classes of the employees of the defendant matter of law includes within it the authority to make a union shop agreement. Once a union is a majority of the employees in a craft or industry, it is a representative for purposes of the Railway Labor Act. A union without any specific conferral of authority over the employees represented has the right to make an agreement authorized by the Railway Labor Act.

In the field of collective bargaining, the authority of the collective bargaining representative is determined not merely by the authority of the craft intend to confer, as in the ordinary principal and agent, but by the provisions of the statutes. *J. I. Case v. N.L.R.B.*, 321 U.S. 337; *Telegraphers v. Ry. Express Agency*, 321 U.S. 424. A collective agreement made by the collective bargaining representative governs each individual, regardless of whether he assented to the terms or wanted the agreement modified or changed. *Order of R. Telegraphers v. Ry. Express Agency, supra*.

Numerous authorities, and the reasons therefor, are upholding the authority of a collective bargaining representative to make such agreements as those involving compulsory retirement of conductors at the age of 40 without specific authorization from its constituent craft are applicable here. See *Lamon v. Georgia S. Ry. Co.*, 1955, 212 Ga. 63, 68-69, 90 S.E. 2d 611; *Mullans v. Kans. Okla. & G. Ry. Co.* (E.D. Mo., 1956), 129 F. Supp. 157, 159, aff'd. (10 Cir. 1956), cert. den. 351 U.S. 918; *Goodin v. Clinchfield Ry. Co.*, 125 F. Supp. 441, aff'd. (6 Cir. 1956), 229



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den. 351 U.S. 953. And the Supreme Court of No-  
lina in its decision in *Hudson v. Atlantic Coast*  
*Road Co.*, 1955, 242 N.E. 650, 663-665, 89 S.E. 2d  
451, applied the same reasoning and authority  
that no specific authorization from members of  
or class was prerequisite to a union's authority  
into a union shop agreement. The Supreme Court  
Carolina said:

"Appellees further contend, and the court  
facts, that defendant unions, through their  
cers, acted arbitrarily and in disregard of t  
of the employees of the respective crafts o  
In last analysis, the only evidence support  
findings is to the effect that the chief offic  
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within the respective crafts. Admittedly,  
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"The inquiry narrows to this question: Mus  
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"We are constrained to hold that such re  
was not required.

"It must be concluded that the intent of  
as presently expressed in the *Railway Labor*  
that the employees in a collective bargaining  
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representative to negotiate and act for the Union Shop Amendment, by its terms, the negotiation of a union shop agreement is the subject for collective bargaining by the union or such collective bargaining unit. The union shop requirement is obligatory under the agreement only as long as the union remains such bargaining agent. Should the collective bargaining unit desire to change its bargaining agent, or none, the procedure is available. 45 U.S.C.A. 152. The union so chosen is at liberty to reopen and renegotiate the collective bargaining agreement, eliminating the shop provision. The injunction in question is in effect since 23 April, 1953. Plaintiffs similarly situated have had ample opportunity to elect representatives, if such was desired by the respective crafts. But no demonstration of bargaining representation was made since 1946. The conclusion reached in *Goodwin v. Clinchfield R.R. Co.*, E. D. Mo., 123 F. Supp. 441; *Austin v. Southern Railway Co.*, 123 F. App. 2d 292, 123 P. 2d 39."

Likewise squarely in point is *Cook v. Sleeping Car Porters*, 1958, Mo., 309 S.W.2d 817, certiorari denied, 358 U.S. 817, where the Supreme Court of Missouri in upholding a union shop agreement against a similar attack, said:

"They say that the contract was executed without notice to them or that they should be heard on the question. We find no basis for the act or in the cases of such a nature. In *McMullans v. Kan-Okla. & Gulf Ry. Co.*, 229 F. 2d 50, certiorari denied 351 U.S. 1450, it was held that notice to individual conductors was not required when the union agent and the carrier so amended the contract as to provide for compulsory retirement.

"The courts cannot write a requirement into the Act, and so far as we can see, no requirement is required under the present circumstances."

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*Gulf Ry., Inc.*, 10 Cir.,  
351 U.S. 918, 100 L. Ed.  
individual complaining  
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umstances."

So far as we know, the *Hudson* and *Cook* cases are only decisions by appellate courts squarely in point involving the specific issue of the necessity of ascertaining the wishes of the members of the union in obtaining specific authority from the members of the union as a requisite to the validity of a union shop agreement under the Railway Labor Act. For other cases involving various provisions of agreements found objectionable by some members of the craft or class, in which the union has rejected the argument that the agreement was invalid because of the absence of notice to, or specific approval by, the members of the craft or class, see *Marsden v. Central of Georgia Ry.*, D.C. S.D., Ga., 1956, 147 F. Supp. 858; *McMullans v. Kansas, Okla. & Gulf Ry.*, D.C. Okla., 1955, 129 F. Supp. 157, 159, affirmed 100 F. 2d 229, certiorari denied 351 U.S. 918; *National Union of Marine Stevedores v. International Longshoremen's Association Federation No. 91*, W. D. Ky., 1955, 127 F. Supp. 889-890; *Goodin v. Clinchfield Railroad Co.*, 1955, 129 F. Supp. 441, 452, affirmed 6 Cir., 229 F. 2d 578, certiorari denied 351 U.S. 953; *Austin v. Southern Pac. Co.*, 1955, 129 Cal. App. 2d 292, 297, 123 P. 2d 39, 42; *Lamson v. Southern Ry. Co.*, 1955, 212 Ga. 63, 68-9, 90 S.E. 2d 662-3.

Plaintiffs will presumably, as they have done cite *Steele v. L. & N.R. Co.*, 323 U.S. 192, 65 *Graham v. Southern Ry. Co.*, 74 F. Supp. 663, 370 S. Ct. 14; *Bro. of R. Trainmen v. Howard*, 372 S. Ct. 1022, to show that this Court has held collective bargaining agreements beyond the authority of collective bargaining representatives. Those cases establish that in those instances of collective bargaining representative agreements that employers take work away from employees who had been performing it and assign the work to white employees. In those cases held that such agreement was in violation of the duty of the representative to represent the entire group represented, fairly and impartially. In those

selves, however, this Court expressly recognized that a collective agreement may have consequences disadvantageous to the interests of some members of the craft, and that such consequences would not affect the validity of the agreement. For example, in the *Steele* case, after holding invalid the agreement there involved, this Court stated that "this does not mean that the statutor, representative of a craft is barred from making contracts which may have unfavorable effects on some members of the craft represented." 323 U.S. 192, 203. Those cases, as stated by Judge Hand in the first *Ottens* case, are "toto coelu" different from the question we have here. 205 F. 2d 58, 60.

The test uniformly applied in such cases is whether the representative has taken action which it thinks is for the benefit of the craft as a whole, not whether any individuals are adversely affected, and not whether the representative's judgment is a sound one so long as it is sincere. *Ford Motor Co. v. Huffman*, 345 U.S. 330; *Haynes v. United Chemical Workers*, 190 Tenn. 165, 228 S.W. 2d 101; *Aeronautical Lodge v. Campbell*, 337 U.S. 521; *Hartley v. Brotherhood*, 283 Mich. 201, 277 N.W. 885. That it is a proper objective of collective bargaining for a representative to seek a union shop agreement is expressly provided in the Act under consideration. Section 2, Eleventh of the Railway Labor Act, under which the defendant unions are established as the collective bargaining representatives, provides:

"... any carrier or carriers as defined in this Act and a labor organization or labor organizations duly designated and authorized to represent employees in accordance with the requirements of this Act shall be permitted—

(a) to make agreements, requiring, as a condition of continued employment, that . . . all employees shall become members of the labor organization representing their craft or class."

There is no room here for statutory interpretation; so far as the question here is concerned, no statute could more clearly authorize the union to do what it did and what is here challenged as not within its authority as a statutory collective bargaining representative.

Even before that legislation, and but for the prohibitions of the pre-existing legislation, it was universally recognized that a union security agreement was a traditional objective of collective bargaining. In *Colgate-Palmolive-Peet Co. v. N.L.R.B.*, 338 U.S. 335, this Court stated (at pp. 362-3):

"One of the oldest techniques in the art of collective bargaining is the closed shop. . . . Congress knew that a closed shop would interfere with freedom of employees to organize in another union and would, if used, lead inevitably to discrimination in tenure of employment. . . . It is not necessary for us to justify the policy of Congress. It is enough that we find it in the statute. . . . The Board cannot ignore the plain provisions of a valid contract made in accordance with the letter and spirit of the statute and reform it to conform to the Board's idea of correct policy."

Plaintiffs argue also that because prior to January 10, 1951, a union shop was prohibited in the railroad industry by the Railway Labor Act, somehow it is beyond the authority of a collective bargaining representative now to negotiate such an agreement although it is no longer prohibited. The reasoning behind this argument is somewhat obscure and difficult to follow. It seems to be directed toward an argument that some of the defendant unions became collective bargaining representatives on the railroad defendants during the 17-year period between 1934 and 1951 that a union shop in the railroad industry was prohibited. R. 169-71. The argument seems to proceed that no one can now know what collective bargaining representative the craft would have chosen had it known that such representative would some time no longer be pro-

hibited from seeking a union shop, and the conclusion seems to be drawn that since the representative chosen could not legally have obtained a union shop agreement it cannot be supposed that the same representative would have been selected or accepted if a union shop agreement were then within the ambit of permissible objectives.

This may be so, or it may not be so, as plaintiffs are to argue. The ultimate conclusion they draw is that before the representative has not been authorized to seek to obtain a union shop. Without going into details, enough to point out that the scope of the authority ascertained primarily from what the Railway Labor Act provides; at least it includes what the Railway Labor Act provides shall be included within the scope of collective bargaining. And indubitably the Railway Labor Act authorizes a collective bargaining representative to seek a union shop agreement. To be sure, some members of the craft may prefer not to have such an agreement. But when an agreement became a permissible objective on January 10, 1951. Less than a month later the appellant union served a formal notice under section 6 of the Railway Labor Act that they wanted such an agreement. And over two years later they obtained such an agreement with the railroad defendants. During that period none of the plaintiffs made any effort to have any change made in the accredited collective bargaining representative, and no such effort has been made in the additional period of four years since then. Plaintiffs' argument, if we understand it, seems to be that Congress having legislated on the authority of collective bargaining representatives and prohibited them from obtaining a union shop agreement without authority to amend such prohibition.

Any time a majority of the craft is dissatisfied with their representative is doing or has done, they can seek to obtain a different one. No such effort has been made in more than nine years since the defendant unions started seeking a union shop agreement or in the seven years since they obtained such an agreement with the railroad.



defendants. And if any such effort should be made and should be successful, the representative so chosen would have authority to enter into a union shop agreement, whatever the preference of any individual members of the craft. Railway Labor Act, section 2, Eleventh; *Order of Railroad Telegraphers v. Railway Express Agency*, 321 U.S. 342.

**VIII APPELLANTS WERE DENIED DUE PROCESS OF LAW BY FINDINGS, A JUDGMENT AND A DECREE BEING ENTERED BEYOND THE JURISDICTION OF THE COURTS BELOW.**

**A. The Findings**

In the final "Findings, Conclusions, Order, Judgment and Decree" the trial court made a number of findings of fact. It made the same findings of fact with respect to all the labor organization defendants, although the evidence and stipulation with respect to those defendants differed materially, and much of the matter in the stipulation cannot be attributed to any particular labor organization defendant. In addition, some of the findings have not even a suggestion of support in the record.

An examination of the final order and stipulation, upon which much of the findings is predicated, shows how inadequate is the support for much of what the court found.

In paragraph 1 of the final order the court found that the individual defendants represent all the members of the labor organization defendants. R. 101. But there is nothing anywhere in the record to show who the individual defendants are or what authority they have or are otherwise in a position to represent anybody. R. 230, 237.

In paragraph 4 of the order the court found that the union shop agreement imposed a condition of employment or continued employment. R. 231. There is absolutely nothing in the record to show that the union shop agreements impose any condition of employment. R. 205. The Railway Labor Act permits a union shop agreement imposing a condition of continued employment, and the agreements themselves very explicitly impose only a condition of continued employment and not a condition of employment. R. 205.

In paragraph 5 of the order the trial court found funds collected by the labor organization defendants plaintiffs were used to support the political campaign candidates for federal office and that the funds were used both by each of the labor union defendants separately and by all the labor union defendants collectively in concert among themselves and with other organization parties to this action, and that such candidates were proposed by the plaintiffs and the class they represent. R. 103, 231. But there is nothing in the record to show that any of the labor organizations so use any funds even if there were any such showing, there is nothing in the record to show that such candidates were opposed by plaintiffs or the class they represent. Furthermore, contributions to such campaign funds would probably be claimed to be in violation of the Federal Corrupt Practices Act, and plaintiffs expressly disavowed any reliance on a violation of the Corrupt Practices Act. R. 232. In the same paragraph the trial court found that the said funds were so used and used also to support other candidates for public office by direct and indirect financial contributions both by each of the labor union defendants separately and by all of them collectively. But as we show below the stipulation states only that "some" of the local lodges "some" of the labor organization defendants spend money in state and local elections; there is nothing in the record to identify further such local lodges or to show that any of them are local lodges to which any of the plaintiffs, intervening plaintiffs or members of the purported class they represent would pay any funds under the union agreement or that any of said local lodges are local lodges of any labor organization that represents any of the plaintiffs or intervening plaintiffs or members of any purported class. Further, none of the defendants are local lodges.

In paragraph 6 of the order the trial court found that the labor organization defendants used the funds collected from plaintiffs and the members of the purported class to impose upon plaintiffs and the class they represent.

well as upon the general public, conformity" to "certain political and economic doctrines, concepts and ideologies" and conformity to "legislative programs". R. 103, 233. There is nothing in the record to show that any of the union defendants impose on plaintiffs or anyone else conformity to any doctrines, concepts, ideologies, or legislative programs. and the trial court made no factual findings to support such conclusion. Indeed, under the terms of the union shop agreements themselves the labor organization defendants could not impose any conformity to any doctrines or concepts or programs. The agreements themselves, as well as Section 2, Eleventh, provide that if membership in the labor organization is denied or terminated for any reason other than the non-payment of uniform dues, fees, and assessments (not including fines and penalties), the union shop agreement would not be applicable to any such person. Under those provisions, no one can be required to conform to any ideologies or concepts or programs; indeed, he is free to oppose them. See *Allen v. Southern Ry. Co.*, 249 N.C. 491, 107 S.E. 2d 125.

In paragraph 10 of the order the court held that "the labor union defendants, by their commingling of funds used for collective bargaining purposes and activities and those used for the complained of purposes and activities . . . have made it impossible to segregate the amount of dues collected . . . which are . . . used for collective bargaining purposes from those which are . . . used for the complained of purposes and activities. . . ." R. 104, 236. There is simply nothing whatever in the record to show what books or accounts are kept by the labor organization defendants, or to show that they commingle any such funds or any other funds, or to show that anything any of the labor organization defendants has done has made it impossible for plaintiffs to do anything, or to show whether it would be impossible or difficult to ascertain what amounts of funds they expend for any particular purpose.

Obviously, the principal support for the findings of the court must have been the facts and conclusion contained

in the stipulation. We think it plain that the trier of fact took every item in the stipulation which might be applicable to one or more of the defendants, and those stipulations with respect to which it cannot be determined from whom the stipulation is applicable, and every item introduced in the record other than through the stipulation which might be applicable to one or more of the defendants, and treated all such material as proper evidence in respect to all the union defendants. The same standard exists with respect to findings made concerning the plaintiffs. For example:

Paragraph 21 of the stipulation of facts states: "some of the legislative and political activities referred to . . . are carried out by some of the individual local labor unions . . . and in some situations . . . will be carried out on a cooperative basis." R. 177. There is nothing in the stipulation which activities are referred to or to identify the local lodges that engage in them, or even to show, if the local lodges were identified, that any of them were the lodges to which any of the plaintiffs or members of the purported class would be required to pay dues. Further, there is nothing to show the situations in which the activities would be carried out on a cooperative basis or by what local lodges such cooperation would be conducted. In the same paragraph it is stipulated that "in some instances" the financial support for the legislative and political activities is derived from not only the local lodges but the national organization; there is nothing to show what those instances are or what organizations are involved in them. But the foregoing findings are of this as established for all labor organization defendants and all their local lodges.

We do not know to what extent the courts below held that the plaintiffs rely upon the payment of death benefits from union funds. But the stipulation states only that the plaintiffs "of the labor union defendants maintain death benefit funds" without further identifying them, and states further that "in some instances" benefits are paid on

eral funds and "in some instances" are payable only to beneficiaries of members in good standing as of some time ago. R. 178. There is nothing in the stipulation to identify the labor union defendants referred to or to identify either of the instances referred to.

Paragraph 24 of the stipulation provides that the labor union defendants received the literature of the AFL-CIO. R. 178. There is nothing in the stipulation to show that the members of the labor organization defendants received such literature. Yet it was indicated below that such literature constituted a portion of the imposition of "political and ideological conformity." R. 103.

Paragraph 29 of the stipulation states that Railroad Labor's Political League received direct grants into its "educational" fund from the general funds of the union defendants. R. 182. But it is plain from the very next paragraph of the stipulation that except for trivial and insignificant amounts, obviously nothing more than corrections of bookkeeping entries, only three of the labor organization defendants have ever contributed money to RLPL's educational fund. The sentence following the stipulation in paragraph 30 (R. 183-4) again states that contributions to that fund were received from local lodges of labor union defendants, but there is nothing in the record to indicate that any of such local lodges are local lodges to which any of the plaintiffs or members of the purported class would be required to contribute. Other portions of the stipulation refer specifically only to certain organizations or except certain organizations, yet the court below made no distinction among them concerning any of its findings. See, e. g., paragraphs 32, 46, 48, 58-64, 185, 189, 192-5.

Similarly, we point to a few instances of the evidence that was applicable to only one, or more but less than all of the labor organization defendants, to show the impropriety of the court making identical findings with respect to all the labor organization defendants. Extensive exhibits were introduced into evidence, to which appellants

could not and did not object, concerning the State Labor Council. P. Exhs. 305-312. The filiation of the local lodges affiliated with that Council was also introduced into the record. 734). A few of such local lodges are affiliated with the defendant labor organization. Yet there is not a suggestion that any of such local lodges are one in which any of the plaintiffs or any members of the alleged class would pay any funds under the agreements. Indeed, since the local lodges are not all of the lodges it would appear quite certain that none of the plaintiffs would pay any funds to any of those lodges of which one of them is employed or lives in Louisiana.

The trial court gave no indication of what material it considered beside the stipulation it relied on for any of its findings. So in directing our attention to what material the trial court did rely on we consider the material the plaintiffs rely on.\* Plaintiffs stated below, and we will state here, that one of the principal types of material on which they rely are the publications of the defendant labor organizations by which it is alleged such publications subject the plaintiffs to "brain washing." Pursuant to the stipulation, we furnished the plaintiffs copies of all the monthly publications of all the defendant labor organizations for a period of two and one-half years, R. 199. These publications, say the plaintiffs, are a principal instrument of imposing political, economic, and legislative conformity. But when we look at the publications introduced from this vast mass of material we find great differences between what plaintiffs consider relevant concerning one organization and what they consider relevant concerning other organizations. If the plaintiffs had ample material, they could find nothing at all in any publication

\* Obviously the trial court did not study the entire case in the fleeting instant between the close of oral argument and the merits and the announcement of his decision, or in the instant between the close of argument on the proposed stipulation and the announcement that he would sign it as presented.



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the Masters, Mates and Pilots or the Marine Engine  
Beneficial Association of which to complain. In two a  
one-half years of issues of the Railroad Telegrapher th  
could find only a list of candidates endorsed by RLPL  
the 1956 election. Exhibits 283-5. An examination of  
exhibits introduced from the various journals shows gr  
differences in what plaintiffs could find to complain  
concerning the contents of those publications. Almost  
the material from those publications introduced by a  
pellants as exhibits consisted of tables of contents or he  
lines or suggestions for contributions to various charita  
organizations or suggestions for compliance with safe  
practices and the like, to show that the scattered items  
roduced by plaintiffs, assuming them to be objectionab  
were but trivial portions of the whole. E. g., D. Exhs. 1  
124, 29-30, 34, 38-44, 54-74, 78-88, 92-101, 106-8, 111-2.

A similar situation exists with respect to material int  
duced from convention proceedings of the labor organi  
tion defendants. Although we furnished a mass of m  
terial concerning those conventions (R. 200-1), plainti  
found but little they thought significant to their ca  
Again, with respect to some organizations, nothing or v  
tually nothing was introduced. And what was introduc  
varied tremendously from organization to organization  
Much of what plaintiffs offered consisted of speeches ma  
by guests at the convention; it is difficult to understa  
how any of that material, consisting simply of what son  
body else said to a convention, can prove anything  
establish a contention of the plaintiffs. Here again, alm  
all of what we offered from those proceedings consisted  
tables of contents or headlines or the number of pages  
the report to show what a picayune portion of the to  
proceedings was the material introduced by the plainti  
and that the overwhelming mass of what occurred c  
sisted of subjects of direct concern to the functioning  
a labor organization.

But despite the great differences in the material in  
record applicable to the several labor organization

fendants; and despite the fact that with of the material it is impossible to tell tion it applies or whether any of the plain of the purported class would be affected made findings of fact uniformly applicabl organization defendants, with no subsidia ing how any of the conclusions was reasomatic that there must be some basis in a a finding else it must be set aside as *Ohio Gas Co. v. Public Utilities Comm.*, And of course the requirements of due p state judicial processes as well as legisla action. *Brinkerhoff-Faris Co., v. Hill*, 2 682.

### B. The Decree.

The substance of the errors in the decr is discussed in the foregoing sections of few additional comments concerning c errors may be helpful.

In the fourth subparagraph of paragra (R. 104) the trial court held the union sh be in violation of the constitution, the law policy of Georgia and contrary to the law in which the defendant railroads operate were specified as those which the agreem no such provision could be specified. Above, the law and public policy of Geor in Code of Georgia, Title 54, Chapter 54- Section 54-901 (a), specifically provides th unlawful under Georgia law to enter i union shop agreements in the railroad in

Furthermore, in certain other states in ern Railway operates it has been held tha ment here involved was lawful in those s ers of such states it has been held that ap cal in terms (except for the name of the r were lawful in those states. Surely it c

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n., 294 U.S. 63, 68.  
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, 281 U.S. 673, 680.

decree complained of  
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As we have shown  
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es in which the South-  
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ose states, and in oth-  
at agreements identi-  
the railroad involved,  
it cannot be argued

that the courts of Georgia have authority to over-  
courts of other states as to what is the law in those  
and give relief to residents of those states which the  
of those states have held such persons were not en-  
have.

For example, in *Jarrett v. Southern Railway Co. and Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employees*, Court of Common pleas, County of Oconee, South Carolina, the same contentions were made as here. This was decided on August 5, 1958, after a trial, and is officially reported. In that case the court held that the to-work law of the State of South Carolina did not in every terms apply to the very same contract as is involved, because (unlike the Georgia statute) the South Carolina statute is not retroactive and excepts union agreements made before its enactment, and the contract was made before the enactment of the South Carolina right-to-work law. The court held also that even though there has been no express exception the South Carolina law does not apply because it was superseded by valid federal legislation, but the primary holding was that the contract was valid under South Carolina law itself. The same was made in *Sams v. Bro. of Ry. Clerks* (4 Cir. 1953, 19 F. 2d 263. For similar situations, in which either an identical contract or other contracts having the same provisions but involving different railroads have been held valid, see *Hudson v. A.C.L.*, 242 N.C. 650, 89 S.E. 2d 351 U.S. 949; *Allen et al. v. Southern Ry. Co.*, 249 N.C. 491, 107 S.E. 2d 125; *Moore v. C. & O.*, 273, 93 S.E. 2d 140; *In the Matter of Florida East Coast Railway Co.*, U.S.D.C., S.D. Fla., No. 4827-J, C. 1953, June 25, 1953, not officially reported, unofficially reported, 32 L.R.R.M. 2534; *Atwell, On Behalf of Himself and Other Employees of the Southern Railway Co. v. Southern Railway Company and International Association of Machinists et al.*, not reported, Superior Court, Guilford County, North Carolina, Greensboro Division, decided January 21, 1959.

Plaintiffs may argue that there are states in which there have not been such holdings, but, if so, it is because the question has not been litigated in those states. In every state where the question has been litigated, the validity of the holding has been upheld.

In the fourth subparagraph of paragraph 1, the court held also that the union shops violate their enforcement, and the use of the funds for such agreements as theretofore described violate the United States Constitution under the authority and violate plaintiffs constitutional rights of freedom of thought, freedom of speech, and freedom of assembly.

We have shown above that the actions of the United States Constitution referred to in paragraph 1 below impose no restrictions on what the unions may do. The court made no statement that plaintiffs can point to nothing in the Constitution that interference by any defendant with any person's right to speak, publish, or vote. Certainly there is no interference under the terms of the Constitution; as we have shown above, both the Constitution itself and Section 2, Eleventh limit the scope of the union shop agreement to a requirement of uniform dues, fees, and assessments for membership. A denial or termination of membership in the union for any reason other than non-payment of uniform amounts would leave persons so terminated outside the requirement of the union shop. Furthermore, the unions and the railroads have done this under the cloak of federal authority. Plaintiffs' contention of unconstitutionality is predicated on the fact that Section 2, Eleventh having superseded state law, here, as elsewhere, there was no state law to supersede. Section 2, Eleventh had never been enacted, and it has been perfectly lawful under Georgia law for the agreements here involved to be enforced.

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paragraph 8 (R. 104)  
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In paragraph 9 of the order (R. 104) the tri-  
found that the injury to plaintiffs from the comp-  
conduct will be irreparable. It made no such find-  
respect to the persons found by it to constitute a c-  
resented by plaintiffs. There is no other finding  
that could furnish any ground for injunctive rel-  
injunctive relief was granted to plaintiffs and  
ported class they represent. With respect to  
ported class, there was thus no basis whatever fo-  
tive relief. And even with respect to the named p-  
the finding of irreparable injury is contradicted  
record. The record shows that the greatest an-  
damage even claimed by any named plaintiff, co-  
period of more than five years, was \$158.25; su-  
age, for such period, for which judgment was e-  
the decree, could hardly be considered irr-  
R. 106, 203-4.

In the final order, the trial court enjoined not  
railway company defendants and the labor org-  
defendants but also the individual defendants from  
ing the union shop agreements in their entirety,  
with respect to the plaintiffs and the purported  
with respect to everyone, whether or not includ-  
group the court found to constitute a class. R.  
is difficult to understand how plaintiffs could ha-  
for such relief, or how the court below could have  
it, except that plaintiffs included it in their  
order. The pleadings ask for no relief for anyone  
than plaintiffs and members of the alleged class  
they represent. Further, the record does not s-  
any of the individual defendants are or any act-  
of them has taken or threatened to take nor the r-  
any such action. There can be no legal basis fo-  
ing persons simply because their names happen  
cluded in the caption of pleadings. Furthermore,  
order so sweeping, it overrules the courts of oth-  
in granting relief to persons who live and work  
states whose courts have held they are not entitl-

very relief asked for in this case and granted below. For example, in the *Jarrett* case discussed above, a South Carolina court held that Jarrett was not entitled to the very relief given him by the court below. In the *Allen* case, even the trial court granted relief to the named plaintiffs in that case but held that no one else was entitled to relief and that to obtain relief anyone else would have to come personally into court, although that case also was brought as a class action. And the Supreme Court of North Carolina held that even the named plaintiffs were not entitled to relief. It is shocking to suppose that the courts of Georgia will undertake to overrule the courts of other states as to what is lawful in those states and will give relief to citizens of North Carolina and South Carolina, for example, which the courts of those States have held such persons were not entitled to have; and will do so not because it finds the courts of those states to be in error in interpreting and applying the law of those states, and not because it finds the law of Georgia entitles citizens of North Carolina and South Carolina to such relief, but because the law of some third state prohibits union shop agreements. In those two States the union shop agreement involved was the very same agreement involved here. The situation is virtually the same with respect to the decisions mentioned above in other states where the contracts involved were not the identical contracts involved here but differed only with respect to the name of the railroads involved.

The trial court included a proviso to its injunction to the effect that the defendants might at any time petition the court to dissolve the injunction upon a showing that they are no longer engaged "in the improper and unlawful activities described above." Such proviso was error, and denied appellants due process of law, for a number of reasons.

First, the order contains no findings or adjudication that any activities that do not include the enforcement of the union shop agreements are improper or unlawful.



Certainly there is no finding, nor was it contended, that efforts by labor organizations to influence legislation they deem of concern to them, and the like, are unlawful. In such situation, the proviso and the order mean that we could petition the court to be permitted to enforce the union shop agreement only upon a showing that we no longer enforce it, a self-contradictory and meaningless order. If the proviso was intended to hold that any of the activities "described above" with relation to legislative or political or economic or ideological matters are improper or unlawful, the holding specifies and can specify no provision of law which any of them violates. The unions have always engaged in such activities, and never have any of them been held or declared unlawful. To a limited extent certain political activities are proscribed by the so-called Corrupt Practices Act, but it is not even argued in this case that a violation of any such act is involved.

### **C. The Monetary Judgment.**

The final order awarded damages to three plaintiffs who had joined the Brotherhood of Railway and Steamship Clerks, Freight Handlers, Express and Station Employees under the terms of the union shop agreement and had paid said Brotherhood dues and either an initiation fee or reinstatement fee, said damages in each instance being in the amount of such fees and dues for the period since June 1953, approximately five years. The amount of such fee and dues ranged from \$133.50 to \$158.25, covering that period. R. 203-4.

Upon sustaining the motion to dismiss on February 4, 1957, the trial court announced that it would upon application enter a supersedeas order in favor of such persons as might become plaintiffs in error to review said order, upon posting a bond in the approximate amount of two years' dues. R. 243. On March 4, 1957, the trial court entered a supersedeas order in favor of the twelve persons who became plaintiffs-in-error, conditioned on said

persons, filing a bond in the amount of \$66.00 R. 243. All three persons awarded damages in the order had the opportunity to become plaintiffs-in-error and come under the supersedeas order, and thus to avoid the monetary damages awarded them. Two of the plaintiffs Cobb and Davis, were intervening plaintiffs and did not become plaintiffs-in-error and file a supersedeas bond. R. 14, 243. One of the three, plaintiff Street, an original plaintiff and became a plaintiff-in-error and did not file a bond. R. 1, 243. All three, instead of taking such action, became members of that Brotherhood and paid the fees and dues and continued paying the dues and the aggregate amounts set forth in the order. R. 14, 243. Having elected to make said payments and obtain the privileges and benefits of membership in the Brotherhood, they cannot now be heard to argue that they should receive back the money they paid for the consideration which they elected to receive, and which is not returnable to the Brotherhood, instead of incurring the insignificant expense, if any expense at all were involved, of posting a bond in the amount of \$66.00.

#### IX. CONCLUSION.

We believe we have demonstrated a multitude of reasons why the judgment below should be reversed. There are numerous grounds on which this Court might reverse and remand for further proceedings to correct procedural errors or various substantive errors which would not dispose of the entire case. But we have shown that the contentions of plaintiffs are legally unsound, even construing the mass of evidence most favorably to plaintiffs. We submit that the proper disposition of this case by this Court is to reverse the judgment of the Supreme Court of Georgia and remand the case to that Court with instructions to reverse the judgment of the Superior Court of Bibb County with its remittitur to the Superior Court.

directing it to vacate its judgment and order of December 8, 1958 and to dismiss the case.

Respectfully submitted,

MILTON KRAMER  
LESTER P. SCHOENE

SCHOENE AND KRAMER  
1625 K Street, N. W.  
Washington 6, D. C.

February 15, 1960

**APPENDIX A****PROCEDURAL RULINGS IN THE TRIAL COURT DENIED APPELLANTS A  
OPPORTUNITY TO DEFEND THIS CASE.****A. Procedural Rulings in the Trial Court.**

After reversal by the Supreme Court of Georgia of the trial court's dismissal of the complaint for failure to state a cause of action, the remittitur was received by the trial court on July 18, 1957. On July 22, 1957 it was made a judgment of the trial court and on the same day the union defendants filed their answer to the complaint as amended. Plaintiffs objected to the filing of said answer as being out of time without a showing of providential cause or excusable neglect. On February 18, 1958 the Supreme Court announced its ruling that it sustained said objection. No written order embodying said ruling was entered on the record.

On May 8, 1958, the union defendants and plaintiffs appeared before the trial judge for a pretrial conference. At said conference plaintiffs made an oral motion for an order of the court to order the union defendants which are labor organizations to produce books, writings, and other documents. Over the objection of the union defendants that they had had no notice of such motion and had not expected the subject to be raised, and after overruling the union defendants' request that consideration of such motion be deferred, the court granted the motion. B. 2. The materials ordered to be produced included "all books, records, papers, documents, books of original entry, ledgers, books, ledgers, vouchers, correspondence, files, minutes, diaries, memoranda, circulars, printed materials, and all other things which said defendants or any of their agents might have or over which they or their agents might have control or custody, 'showing or related to' any matter in which any member of any such organization might have been paid to any such organization 'or affiliates thereof and for purposes for which any such monies received' by such organization 'were or are being expended, including

any and all monies paid by each of the respective organizations to other organizations or individuals and the purposes for which such payments are being, or were made . . .", for the period since June 15, 1953. The defendant unions were further ordered to produce with said materials, officers or agents of said defendants competent and prepared to testify under oath concerning the "identity, nature, contents, accuracy, source, and purpose" of all said materials. R. 65-6, 222. The union defendants made two oral requests for rehearing and reconsideration of the order of May 8, 1958, and on May 30, 1958 filed a written motion which was treated by the court as including a request for rehearing, reargument, and reconsideration of the order of May 8, 1958; so treating it, on the same day it was filed the trial court denied said request. R. 222-3.

On August 14, 1958 a comprehensive stipulation was entered into by all parties. R. 165-205. In said stipulation the union defendants conceded virtually everything plaintiffs might contend concerning them and their associates and affiliates. Under that stipulation the union defendants undertook also to furnish, and furnished to plaintiffs, a huge mass of material, including much that was not within the compass of the order of May 8, 1958, and including voluminous material relating to organizations other than the defendants; the plaintiffs could offer in evidence any of such material and the union defendants would be precluded from objecting to the admission of any such material; the union defendants could not offer as evidence anything except additional portions of documents of which plaintiffs might offer only a part, but union defendants were required to advise plaintiffs, in advance of trial, of such additional portions of such documents of which plaintiffs might offer a part and if plaintiffs chose not to offer a part of such documents the union defendants could offer none of it. R. 163-4, 199-202. After the execution of the stipulation, the objections to the filing of the answer were

withdrawn on September 23, 1958, and the striking the answer was rescinded. R. 221.

The record in the trial court shows, but the refused to include it in the Bill of Exceptions ground that it was irrelevant to any question that depositions were taken from officials of organizations which were read into evidence at the trial that at the taking of said depositions from the lawyers representing the defendants were present none of them made any objection to any question propounded by counsel for the plaintiffs and that they had any cross-examination. At the trial, the case rested, counsel for the union defendants by reason of the stipulation they were not offered additional evidence. R. 223.

At the close of all the evidence, including the production of more than 600 exhibits over a period of several days the union defendants asked for oral argument on the merits on the basis of the record after the transcript proceedings should have been completed. They denied said request and scheduled closing argument on the merits for November 20, 1958, before the transcript was completed. Argument was had on November 20, 1958. R. 224. At said argument counsel for the defendants again objected to oral argument being heard at that time. R. 224-5.

Immediately after the close of oral argument the court orally announced findings of fact. R. 225-6. The court then stated that it had reached the conclusion that the prayers for relief should be granted, and requested counsel for plaintiffs to prepare an appropriate order and furnish copies to the two groups of defendants in the court. R. 227. Counsel for the plaintiffs then stated they had been preparing an order for the previous day and offered it to the court. R. 227. Counsel for the defendants objected to being called upon to state objections to a proposed order he had never seen.



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court thereupon declared a short recess. R. 227. Upon the resumption of the hearing counsel for the union defendants objected to being required to present argument on the contents of the proposed order on such short notice, and the court thereupon adjourned for the usual luncheon recess of two hours and stated that immediately thereafter it would hear objections to the order as drafted by plaintiffs. R. 228. Upon the resumption of the hearing after said recess counsel for the union defendants again protested against having been given such short time to examine the proposed order and prepare and address argument to it. R. 228. Immediately after the conclusion of the argument on the proposed order the court announced that it would sign the proposed order as presented. R. 228.

#### **B. Discussion**

Preliminarily, it should be observed that the series of procedural rulings described above and in the Statement of Facts, was hardly calculated to afford these defendants a fair opportunity to defend the claims made against them. Certainly the combination of those rulings was grossly unfair; all the procedural rulings favored the plaintiffs in prosecuting this action to the detriment of the defense that these appellants could make. Indeed, almost any one of the rulings described would of itself be sufficient to hold that these appellants were denied due process. But the combination of those rulings makes it abundantly clear that after the Supreme Court of Georgia reversed the sustaining of the demurrer in the trial court, it was the determination of the trial court that the ultimate ruling would be against these appellants, no matter what rulings need be made to facilitate that end.

We start with our answer being stricken for having been filed out of time. We filed a demurrer to the complaint with its already multitudinous amendments, as it existed prior to January 29, 1957. We demurred to the complaint

as it then existed, and were willing to stand on to that complaint. But on that day the plain and the trial court accepted over objection, which were the basis of the Supreme Court later holding that the demurrer should not have been sustained. On the same day that those amendments were offered and accepted, the trial court announced that it would treat the demurrer as addressed to the complaint as so amended and so treating it would sustain the demurrer. Later, on February 4, 1957, a formal order was entered. R. 221.

Obviously, no rational person files an answer to a complaint that has been dismissed. After the Supreme Court of Georgia reversed, the mandate was received by the trial court on July 18, 1957, and four days later was entered as judgment of the trial court. On the same day the answer was filed. R. 221. Thus at the very most the amendments were part of the complaint, and within a maximum of ten days when the answer was filed. Upon request of plaintiffs the trial court held the defendants in default for having filed their answers. To be sure, the request to strike the answer, and the order striking it, were later rescinded. Plaintiffs later appealed. Apparently they were unwilling to have this case come on appeal with an order entered at their request holding them in default for not having answered allegations that had been dismissed. But in the meantime the appellants were under the handicap of trying to resist procedural motions while in default.

Perhaps the worst miscarriage of justice in this case was the order of May 8, 1958. R. 65-6. The parties were ordered for a routine pretrial conference to report on the progress of the taking of depositions so that the matter could be discussed. Without notice, without a motion, without specificity, without an affidavit

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ment of counsel in his place,"\* the plaintiffs orally mov-  
for, and the court granted, an order fantastically beyon-  
any reasonable specificity that could be sustained. It re-  
quired the labor organization defendants to produce "all  
books, records, papers, documents, books of original entries,  
check books, ledgers, vouchers, correspondence, files, mem-  
utes, diaries, memoranda, circulars, printed materials, broch-  
ures" for a five year period "over which they or their  
agents might have control or custody," together with all  
officers and agents of said defendants competent and pre-  
pared to testify under oath concerning the "identity, nature,  
contents, accuracy, source, and purpose" of said materials.  
R. 65-6. Such order was far beyond orders held unreason-  
ably broad in decisions prior to this case. *Ringwald v.*  
*Watkins*, 28 Ga. App. 298, 111 S. E. 83; *Branan v. N. C. &*  
*L. R. Co.*, 119 Ga. 738, 46 S. E. 882; *Virginia-Carolina Chem.*  
*Co. v. Hollis*, 23 Ga. App. 634, 99 S. E. 154. Indeed, the  
absence of a written motion, and the absence of an affidavit  
or statement of counsel in his place, alone would render  
that order invalid and contrary to law. *Virginia-Carolina*  
*Chem. Co. v. Hollis*, 23 Ga. App. 634, 99 S. E. 154. But the  
court refused to grant these appellants an opportunity  
prepare to resist that motion made without notice, although  
they requested it. R. 221-2. Thereafter, the court denied  
two oral and one written requests for an opportunity  
reargue that motion. R. 222-3.

It is apparent, although the trial court refused to include  
it in the Bill of Exceptions, that the extremely burdensome  
nature of that order, requiring the defendants to produce  
truckloads of their records, disrupt their operations, and  
furnish expert witnesses, drove them into the one-sided

\*See Georgia Code, Title 38, Sec. 801, 802, 806; specifically  
requiring that before an order to produce may be issued there  
must be a motion with specificity on the documents, that the motion  
be written, accompanied by an affidavit or "statement of counsel  
in his place," and heard after reasonable notice.

stipulation. As stated above, the trial court refused to include in the Bill of Exceptions, although it was in the record in the trial court, that officials of both parties to this case were produced by these stipulations, that although two to four lawyers representing the defendants or those witnesses were present at the depositions, no objections were made to the testimony asked by plaintiffs and no cross-examination was conducted by any of them. R. 114, 121, 125, 131, 152. The Court could take judicial notice that such stipulations would not arise and persist through the taking of depositions unless it was agreed in advance, as parties agreed, in obtaining a stipulation instead of complying with the order of May 8, 1958, that we would not object to the reading and would not conduct any cross-examination. The reading of those depositions will make it clear that this is not and it is the fact, that the questions are prepared and written out in advance, with the understanding that the departure from such prepared questions will terminate the negotiations.

Another result of that order was the stipulation that these defendants would not cross-examine the evidence offered by plaintiffs, and would offer no evidence of their own in their defense except additional evidence. They offered such documents of which the plaintiffs made no use after being advised in advance by these stipulations that such additional parts they would offer if they were on some other part. R. 163-4. In addition, the defendants undertook to answer requests for admission of the activities of organizations not parties to this case, of which organizations were no longer in existence. R. 487-92, R. 277-323. A more unbalanced stipulation is difficult to imagine.

Plaintiffs, of course, knew what evidence they would offer, but these defendants could not know what they would offer four days of introducing exhibits, reading

court also refused  
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the union defendants  
admissions concerning  
s to this litigation, two  
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nced trial of a case is

evidence they would  
not know. Yet, after  
reading depositions, and

reading extracts from, or all of, such documents  
tiffs chose to introduce in evidence, after being  
with a huge mass of material by these defendants  
below refused to defer final argument on the m  
a transcript was available so that these defend  
ascertain clearly just what was in the record.  
asked for such an opportunity, both before a  
closing argument, but it was denied them. R. 22

Perhaps not the most damaging, but probably  
glaring denial of due process in defending this  
place at the close of oral argument on the merit  
time the court orally announced its ruling  
counsel for the plaintiffs to prepare an order a  
on counsel for the union defendants and coun  
railroad defendants and to furnish a copy to  
R. 227. One of counsel for the plaintiffs then  
that he and his associates had been preparin  
order for 10 days and then and there served c  
counsel for the defendants and furnished the co  
R. 227. We were directed to state our objectio  
order *instantly*, and it was only after much plea  
luncheon recess was called during which time, an  
things, we could try to prepare our argument on  
R. 227-8.

It is elementary that due process of law and  
protection of the laws require that defendants  
fair opportunity to defend, at least something a  
a proportionate opportunity to resist what plai  
prepared. See *Frank v. State*, 142 Ga. 741, 83  
*Norman v. State*, 171 Ga. 527, 529, 156 S. E. 20  
*Macon v. Benson*, 175 Ga. 502, 508, 166 S. E. 20  
*Walker*, 206 Ga. 181, 56 S. E. 2d 511; see also *B*  
*Faris Co. v. Hill*, 281 U.S. 673, 680, 682. Any  
foregoing rulings of the trial court would o  
enough to warrant a holding that these defend  
have such opportunity. Certainly the combinati  
can leave little doubt.

MOTION OF RAILWAY  
LABOR EXECUTIVES'  
ASSOCIATION FOR LEAVE  
TO FILE A BRIEF ON THE  
MERITS AS AMICUS CURIA  
AND ANNEXED BRIEF



IN THE  
**Supreme Court of the United States**

OCTOBER TERM, 1959

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF MACHINISTS, ET AL.,  
*Appellants,*

v.

S. B. STREET, ET AL.,  
*Appellees.*

On Appeal from the Supreme Court of Georgia

**MOTION OF RAILWAY LABOR EXECUTIVES'  
ASSOCIATION FOR LEAVE TO FILE A BRIEF  
ON THE MERITS AS AMICUS CURIAE, AND  
ANNEXED BRIEF**

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IN THE  
**Supreme Court of the United States**

OCTOBER TERM, 1959

No. 258

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF MACHINISTS, ET AL.,  
*Appellants,*

v.

S. B. STREET, ET AL.,

*Appellees.*

On Appeal from the Supreme Court of Georgia

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**MOTION OF RAILWAY LABOR EXECUTIVES'  
ASSOCIATION FOR LEAVE TO FILE A BRIEF  
ON THE MERITS AS AMICUS CURIAE.**

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The Railway Labor Executives' Association respectfully moves the Court for leave to file the annexed brief *amicus curiae* on the merits of the appeal in this case by the International Association of Machinists, *et al.* The consent of the attorney for the appellants and for the railroad appellees<sup>1</sup> has been obtained. The consent of the attorneys for the individual appellees was requested but refused.

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<sup>1</sup> The consent of the Railroad Appellees is expressed in terms of "No objection" to the filing of a brief *amicus curiae* by the Association.

The Railway Labor Executives' Association is a voluntary unincorporated association located in Washington, D. C., with which are affiliated standard national and international organizations that are the duly authorized representatives of more than 90 per cent of the employees under the Railway Labor Act, 151 *et seq.*) The names of these individual organizations are:

American Railway Supervisors' Association  
 American Train Dispatchers' Association  
 Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers  
 Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen  
 men  
 Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employees  
 Brotherhood of Railroad Signalmen  
 Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen  
 Brotherhood Railway Carmen of America  
 Brotherhood of Railway and Steamship  
 Freight Handlers, Express and  
 Employees  
 Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters  
 Hotel and Restaurant Employees and  
 International Union  
 International Association of Machinists  
 International Brotherhood of Boiler  
 Ship Builders, Blacksmiths, Forgers  
 Helpers  
 International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers  
 International Brotherhood of Firemen  
 International Organization Masters, Mates  
 Pilots of America  
 National Marine Engineers' Beneficial  
 Association  
 Order of Railway Conductors and  
 Railroad Yardmasters of America  
 Railway Employees' Department, A. F. of L.

Sheet Metal Workers' International  
Association  
Switchmen's Union of North America  
The Order of Railroad Telegraphers

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This Court has heretofore recognized the As- as a proper party to appear and speak for organizations and their member employees. *Commerce Commission v. Railway Labor Ex Association*, 315 U.S. 373 (1942); *Railwa Executives' Association v. United States*, 142 (1950); *American Trucking Associatio et al. v. United States*, 355 U.S. 141 (1957). the foregoing organizations, but not all, are appellants in this case."

## II

The questions presented by the appeal in are of vital importance to the Railway Labor tives' Association and the individual organiz which it is composed. Included in the thou collective bargaining agreements which thes zations maintain with rail carriers governing of pay, rules, and working conditions of t ployees are more than 1000 union shop ag the validity of which is challenged by the below. The nine organizations listed above, v affiliated with the Association, and which are

<sup>1</sup> The nine organizations which are not parties to t clude the American Railway Supervisors' Associatio hood of Locomotive Engineers, Brotherhood of Locon men and Enginemen, Brotherhood of Railroad Trainm hood of Sleeping Car Porters, Hotel and Restaurant and Bartenders International Union, Order of Ra ductors and Brakemen, Railway Employes' Departm CIO, and Switchmen's Union of North America.



ties-appellants in this case, alone have union shop agreements covering many employees on railroads all over the country of which are challenged by the decision which will be affected by the decision of the court. The interest of the Association in the validity of the union shop agreements is shown by the fact that it filed a brief *amicus curiae* in *Railway Labor Board v. Hanson*, 351 U.S. 22, 1956, 108-115. The close relationship of the Association to the industry is further demonstrated by the fact that it took the depositions of officers of the Association in the proceedings below concerning the Association and its relationship to the appellants (R. 108-115) and paragraphs 25 of the Stipulation of Facts (R. 179-181). The Association, its organization, its officers, and the financing of those activities, clearly appear to entitle the Association to present this case for itself and the organizations affiliated with it.

### III

This interest of all railway labor organizations in the decision below, including the substantial number of organizations with more than 250 union members, which are not parties-appellants, is fully represented by appellants alone. The appellants must direct their arguments toward the issues raised by the notice of appeal, not all of them to the industry as a whole. The Association must concentrate its presentation to the broad issues on all of its affiliated organizations. More appellants are not in the same position as the Association to speak for the whole of railro-

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Finally, the reliance in part by the appel  
the facts concerning the Association, its offi  
its activities as set forth in paragraphs 25 th  
of the Stipulation of Facts (R. 179-181) giv  
an interest of the Association in the litigati  
can be most adequately and directly repres  
the Association itself.

WHEREFORE, the Association moves the C  
leave to file the brief annexed hereto on the  
the questions raised by the appeal.

Respectfully submitted,

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*Counsel for Railway L  
Executives' Associat*

February, 1960

IN THE  
**Supreme Court of the United States**

OCTOBER TERM, 1959

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No. 258

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INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF MACHINISTS

v.

S. B. STREET, ET AL.,

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On Appeal from the Supreme Court of Georgia

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**BRIEF OF RAILWAY LABOR EXECUTIVES' ASSOCIATION AS AMICUS CURIAE**

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The Railway Labor Executives' Association files this brief as *amicus curiae* in support of its position that the Supreme Court of Georgia should reverse the final judgment of the International Association of Machinists that this Court reverse a final judgment of the Supreme Court of Georgia (R. 270), affirming the judgment and decree of the Superior Court of Biloxi County, Georgia, (R. 105) enjoining the enforcement of the

shop agreements between the appellant railway labor organizations and nine named railroads.

### THE INTEREST OF THE ASSOCIATION.

The interest of the Association in this case is set forth in the annexed motion of the Association for leave to file this brief and need not be repeated here.

### QUESTIONS PRESENTED

The notice of appeal (R. 273) in this case raises eleven questions. The Association in this brief will concern itself only with two of those questions as three issues falling within the ambit of those questions which are of primary concern to the Association. These are:

1. Is there any governmental action involved in this case on which constitutional issues may properly be based?

2. Did the Supreme Court of Georgia err in holding that the decision of this Court in *Railway Employees' Dept., A.F.L. v. Hanson*, 351 U.S. 225, is inapplicable where it is found that a union having a union shop agreement spends part of its funds for political and legislative purposes?

3. Did the Supreme Court of Georgia err in holding that union shop agreements entered into pursuant to the Railway Labor Act violate constitutional rights of individual appellees on the ground that a part of the periodic dues, initiation fees, and assessments paid by such individuals to appellant organizations are lawfully used to support political and legislative programs in the best interests of such organizations?

## SUMMARY OF ARGUMENT

1. There is no governmental action giving rise to Federal constitutional issues in this case. This Court in the *Hanson* case held that there was governmental action upon which to base Federal constitutional issues in a situation where union shop agreements were made valid contrary to provisions of state law by Section 2, Eleventh of the Railway Labor Act. The Court found that in such a situation the Federal statute was the source of the power and authority by which any private rights were lost or sacrificed. There are no comparable provisions of state law here involved invalidating railroad union shop agreements. Although the petition in this case alleged that the union shop agreements violated certain provisions of Georgia law, and the Georgia courts found that the union shop agreements here involved were contrary to the law and public policy of the state, there does not appear to be any foundation for such a conclusion. The findings of the Georgia courts were expressed in general terms without reference to any specific provision of Georgia law. Moreover, an examination of Georgia law reveals that the provisions of Georgia "right to work" statutes specifically exempt the railroad industry. Therefore, it does not appear, as it did in the *Hanson* case, that the Railway Labor Act can be said to be the source of the power and authority by which it can be asserted that private rights are lost or sacrificed. Nor can it be argued that there is governmental action involved because the Railway Labor Act prevents the State of Georgia from enacting laws which would outlaw union shop agreements in the railroad field. The existing exemptions contained in the Georgia statutes relating to the railroad industry

were adopted in 1947, almost four years prior to the adoption of the union shop amendment of the Railway Labor Act, and must be taken as the settled law of Georgia.

2. Assuming *arguendo* that there is governmental action involved in this case so as to give rise to constitution issues, it is submitted that those issues were resolved by this Court in the *Hanson* decision. The Georgia trial court originally interpreted the *Hanson* decision as disposing of the claims of the individual plaintiffs-appellees and dismissed the petition. That judgment was reversed by the Georgia Supreme Court which held that the *Hanson* decision is inapplicable to a situation where it was found that a union having a union shop agreement expends a part of its funds for political and legislative purposes. However, it is submitted that a re-examination of the *Hanson* case shows that the only situation left open for re-examination is one where conditions of membership other than the payment of initiation fees, periodic dues, and assessments are imposed or the exaction of such initiation fees, dues, or assessments is used as a cover for forcing ideological conformity. Such a situation is clearly not involved here, as in this case, the union shop agreements specifically provide that the membership of employees subject thereto shall not be denied or terminated for any reason other than the failure of employees to tender the initiation fees, periodic dues, and assessments uniformly required as a condition of acquiring or maintaining membership in the union and where nothing more is involved than the expenditure of union funds for political and legislative purposes. The mere expenditure of funds for a purpose with which the i



dividual member may not agree does not impose any condition of membership upon him other than the payment of initiation fees, periodic dues, or assessments, nor does it in any way force ideological conformity by requiring him to agree with such purposes. The individual member is left free to oppose the legislative and political programs favored by the union if he so desires and neither his union membership nor his employment is affected. The North Carolina Supreme Court has considered the same problems that are raised in this case and found that they were disposed of by the *Hanson* decision.

3. Assuming *arguendo* that the issues before the Georgia court in this case were left open by the *Hanson* decision, it is further submitted that there is in fact no violation of Federal constitutional rights involved. The decision of the Georgia court is based upon the erroneous assumption that the use of union funds to support political or legislative programs with which a member may not agree is the equivalent of requiring the member to conform to the views of the union on such programs. These contentions have been considered and rejected by the Supreme Courts of California and North Carolina. The courts of New York and Indiana have also held that union shop agreements do not give rise to any violations of personal liberty or of the Fourteenth Amendment. The Georgia court stands alone in its conclusions, which are an integral part of its views, expressed in the decisions below, that this Court erred in the *Hanson* decision.

## ARGUMENT

## I

## NO GOVERNMENTAL ACTION GIVING RISE TO CONSTITUTIONAL PROBLEMS IS HERE INVOLVED

The Supreme Court of Georgia stated the constitutional issue it was deciding as follows (R. 266-269)

"The fundamental constitutional question is: Does the contract between the employer and the plaintiffs and the union defendants, which compels these plaintiffs, if they continue to work for the employers, to join the unions of their respective crafts, and pay dues, fees, and assessments to the unions, where a part of the dues will be used to support political and economic programs and candidates for public office, violate the plaintiffs not only do not approve but also violate their rights of freedom of speech and to deprive them of their property without due process of law under the First and Fifth Amendments of the Federal Constitution?"

The court answered this question in the affirmative (R. 266-269)

It is clear that a question of infringement of individual Federal constitutional rights does not arise from the execution and enforcement of a contract between private parties because it is fundamentally outside the prohibitions of the United States Constitution which apply only to governmental action. *Corrigan v. U.S. Army*, 271 U.S. 323 (1926); *Civil Rights Cases*, 109 U.S. 3, 11; *Slaughterhouse Cases*, 16 Wall. 36; *States v. Cruikshank*, 92 U.S. 542; *United States v. Harris*, 106 U.S. 629, 639; *Hodges v. United States*, 203 U.S. 1, 18. The Georgia court therefore held when it held that the union shop agreements

appellants and appellee railroads violated Federal constitutional rights of the individual appellees.

Nor is this conclusion affected by the findings of this Court in *Railway Employees' Dept., A.F.L. v. Hanson*, 351 U.S. 225 (1956) on this subject. At page 232 of its opinion in the *Hanson* case this Court considered the question of whether any governmental action was involved in the execution and enforcement of union shop agreements in the railroad industry so as to give rise to constitutional questions. It held that such governmental action was involved in the case before it because the union shop agreements there involved would have been invalid under Nebraska law but for the provisions of Section 2, Eleventh of the Railway Labor Act. (45 U.S.C.A. 152, Eleventh) Thus the Court concluded the cited provision of the Railway Labor Act was the source of the power and authority by which any private rights might be lost or sacrificed.

The plaintiffs-appellees attempted to bring themselves within the scope of this finding by alleging that the union shop agreements involved violated Chapter 54, Sections 804, 902, *et seq.* of the Georgia Code Annotated (R. 9, 10), as well as Chapter 2, Section 10 of that code, which appears in the Constitution of Georgia (R. 11). It is also alleged that the agreements violate Article 1, para. 3 of the Georgia Constitution (R. 12).

The trial court found, *inter alia*, that said union shop agreements are contrary to "the law and public policy of this State." (R. 104) However, no specific provision of Georgia law was cited nor was any mention made of the provisions of Georgia law alleged in the

petition as a basis for constitutional issues. The Supreme Court of Georgia quoted paragraph 8 of the trial court's conclusions of law (R. 264, 265) and it did not cite any provision of state law prohibiting the agreements in question. Significantly, the court did not even rest the presence of constitutional issues on any such Georgia law, but simply stated on broad ground that the Railway Labor Act "prohibits or allows defendants to make contracts in violation of the constitutional rights of the plaintiffs." (R. 265, 266)

An examination of the provisions of Georgia law set forth in the petition clearly shows the reason for these omissions from the decisions below because it reveals that nothing in Georgia law prohibits the agreements here involved.

The petition alleged that the union shop agreements violated Chapter 2, Section 102 of the Code of Georgia, which is Article 1, paragraph 2 of the Constitution of Georgia which reads as follows:

"Protection to person and property is the paramount duty of government, and shall be inviolable and complete."

This provision appears in the "Bill of Rights" of the Georgia Constitution and does not appear to have any applicability to the question of the validity of union shop agreements. Moreover, a reliance on such a provision, also embodied in an equivalent Federal "Bill of Rights," to prohibit railroad union agreements in Georgia and thus create a conflict between Georgia law and the Federal law so as to give rise to Federal constitutional issues involves a peculiar process of reasoning.

The same may be said for Article 1, paragraph 3 of the Georgia Constitution cited by the petition (R. 12) which reads as follows:

"No person shall be deprived of life, liberty, or property except by due process of law."

The inapplicability of these provisions is clearly indicated by the fact that the Georgia statutes specifically exempt railway labor union shop agreements from the scope of the state's "right to work" law found in Chapter 54, Sections 804, 902, *et seq.* of the Georgia Code and cited in the petition (R. 9).

Section 804 of Chapter 54 prohibits any person from compelling or attempting to compel another to join a "labor organization."

Section 902 makes it unlawful for individuals, as a condition of employment or continued employment, to be required to become or remain a member of a "labor organization." Likewise, Section 905 makes it unlawful for an "employer" to contract with any "labor organization" to make employment or continued employment conditional on membership in a "labor organization" on the payment of any fee, assessment, or money to such an organization.

If these provisions were applicable to railroads subject to the Railway Labor Act or to railway labor organizations also subject to that statute, then the findings of this Court in the *Hanson* case respecting the presence of governmental action would be applicable here.

However, Section 901(a) of Chapter 54 of the Georgia Code defines the term "employer", as used in Chapter 54, as follows:

"The term 'employer' includes any person in the interest of an employer, directly or indirectly, *but shall not include the United States, any State, or any political subdivision thereof, or any person subject to the Railway Labor Act as amended from time to time* \* \* \*" (as supplied).

Section 901(d) defines the term "labor organization," as used in Chapter 54, to mean any organization which exists to deal in whole or in part with employers" concerning grievances, labor disputes, rates of pay, hours of employment, or conditions of work.

Thus the railroad appellees, which as employers of the individual appellees entered into the union agreements here involved, were not prohibited by Chapter 54 of the Georgia Code from executing such contracts. Similarly, Section 902 of Chapter 54 does not operate against such agreements because the appellees clearly were not "labor organizations" as defined by Section 901(d), i.e., organizations dealing with "employers" covered by the statute.

It would, therefore, clearly appear that there is no conflict of the petition to create a conflict between the Georgia law and Section 2, Eleventh of the Railway Labor Act are entirely "make weight" and that the constitutional violations found by the Georgia court upon violations of claimed constitutional provisions of private contracts not requiring the overriding provisions of Section 2, Eleventh of the Railway Labor Act to give them force and effect in Georgia.

The only effect of the Railway Labor Act in this situation is to withdraw the previously existing prohibitions of Federal law against such agreements.



it is submitted does not constitute "governmental action" within the intent of the *Hanson* decision.

Chapter 54 was enacted in 1947, nearly four years prior to the adoption of Section 2, Eleventh of the Railway Labor Act, and must be taken as the law of Georgia, as declared by its legislature; on this subject.

## II

### THE DECISION OF THE GEORGIA SUPREME COURT IS CONTRARY TO THE DECISION OF THIS COURT IN THE HANSON CASE

Assuming *arguendo*, that there is governmental action involved in this case so as to give rise to constitutional issues, it is submitted that those issues were resolved by this Court's decision in *Railway Employees Dept., A.F.L. v. Hanson*, 351 U.S. 225 (1956).

The trial court originally dismissed the petition in this case upon the precedent of the *Hanson* decision.

This judgment of dismissal was reversed by the Georgia Supreme Court on the ground that the petition raised issues left open by the *Hanson* decision. *Looper v. Georgia, Southern & Florida Railway Company, et al.*, 213 Ga. 279, 99 S.E.2d 101 (1957). The court's holding on this point read as follows (99 S.E.2d at 104):

"We go now to the single point raised which the Supreme Court has, we believe, clearly indicated is still open for decision. The petition of the non-union employees alleges that they have notified in accordance with the law and the contract of employment that unless they become members of a union within 60 days their employment will be terminated. It is alleged that the union dues and other payments they will be required to make to the union will be used to

port ideological and political doctrines which they are unwilling to support in which they do not believe, and which violate the First, Fifth and Ninth Amendments of the Constitution. While *Railway Laborers v. Hanson*, 351 U.S. 225, 38 LRRM 101, upheld the validity of a closed shop agreement executed under § 2, Eleventh, that opinion indicates that that court would not require that one join the union if the conditions thereto were used as this purpose. It is there said, 'Judgment is reserved as to the validity or enforcement of a union or closed shop agreement if other conditions of union membership be imposed such as the collection of dues, initiation fees or assessments, as a cover for enforcing ideological or other action in contravention of the Fifth Amendments.'

"We must render judgment now on this precise question. We do not believe one can constitutionally be compelled to contribute to support ideas, politics and candidates for office. We believe his right to freedom of expression is superior to any claim to such exactions is superior to any claim that he can make upon him."

The court therefore held that the trial court was in error in dismissing the amended petition.

However, it is submitted that the mere fact that funds derived from payments of membership dues for the purposes indicated, which are not illegal and are in accordance with the union's determination of its best interests of the organization and does not give rise to the situation as in *Hanson*. The Court reserved its judgment in the *Hanson* case although all members of the organization agreed with the expenditures.

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The mere expenditure of funds for a purpose which the individual member may disagree or does not impose any condition of membership other than the payment of initiation fees, periodic assessments. Nor does it in any way force ideological conformity. The individual member is not bound by the union shop agreements here involved. Support, as a condition of employment, any particular political ideas or candidates. Section 4 of the agreements specifically provides, in accordance with the provisions of Section 2, Eleventh of the Railway Labor Act, that the employment of an employee subject to the agreements shall not be terminated for any reason other than his failure to tender the initiation fees, periodic dues, and assessments uniformly required as a condition of acquiring or retaining membership. The provision of the agreements reads as follows (Section 208):

"Nothing in this agreement shall require any employee to become or to remain a member of such organization if such membership is not available to such employee upon the same terms and conditions as are generally applicable to any other employee, or if the membership of such employee is denied or terminated for any reason other than the failure of the employee to tender the initiation fees, dues, initiation fees, and assessments (not including fines and penalties) uniformly required as a condition of acquiring or retaining membership. For purposes of this agreement, dues, fees, and assessments, shall be deemed to be 'uniformly required' if they are required of all employees having the same status at the same time in the same organizational unit."

Thus the active or passive support of any particular idea or candidate by an employee subject to the

shop agreements will not and can not ployment. That being the case, the agreements are not "a cover for forcing ideological or other action in contravention of the agreement" the possibility of which concerned in the *Hanson* case.

➤ This view of the scope of the *Hanson* decision adopted by the North Carolina Supreme Court in *Allen, et al. v. Southern Railway Company*, 191 N.C. 491, 107 S.E.2d 125.<sup>3</sup> In that case the union-shop agreements were subjected to a challenge of invalidity as is here advanced by individual appellees. In holding that the agreements required rejection of such claims, the Supreme Court stated (107 S.E.2d at

"As we interpret *Hanson*, the Supreme Court of the United States has decided that the requirement that plaintiffs pay the ordinary dues and initiation fees uniformly required of members does not violate either the First or Fifth Amendment. Since the constitutionality of the Union Shop Amendment has been upheld, we need not discuss plaintiff's attack there predicated on the Ninth Amendment.

"All that defendant Unions demand of plaintiffs is that they pay the ordinary dues and initiation fees uniformly required of members. *In all other respects, plaintiffs are free to speak and to act according to their own beliefs, even if by so doing they speak and act in opposition to the purposes with defendant Unions.*

"As we interpret it, the question presented in *Hanson* would arise only if and when

<sup>3</sup> This decision is presently under reconsideration by the North Carolina court.

not affect his employment agreements clearly in violation of the First Amendment. Concerned this Court

*Hanson* decision was Supreme Court in *Company, et al.*, 249 at case these same led to the same challenged by the individual *Hanson* decision the North Carolina at 134):

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Unions should undertake to deny membership on account of failure of plaintiffs to comply with the various regulations applicable to voluntary members: refusal to sign application blanks, failure to attend meetings, failure to speak or act in harmony with the policies and objectives of defendant union, failure to pay an exaction imposed by union for initiation or for disciplinary purposes, etc. If defendant Unions, notwithstanding the tender of dues by plaintiffs of ordinary periodic dues and initiation fees, refuse to recognize plaintiffs as members and to grant them any privilege to which a member is entitled, it would seem that by such conduct defendant Unions would relieve plaintiffs from further obligations under the union shop agreement. It is conceivable that occasions will arise where defendant Unions will prefer to forego the collection of periodic dues and initiation fees rather than to accept nonconformists as members of their unions." (Emphasis supplied)

The North Carolina court also observed that it did not contend that the union expenditures violated the Federal Corrupt Practices Act (U.S.C.A. 610) or that such expenditures did not accord with the wishes of the majority of the union. Similarly no such claims are advanced in this case.

It is submitted that the analysis and interpretation of the *Hanson* decision made by the North Carolina Supreme Court in the *Allen* case is clearly correct.

## III

**THE USE<sup>2</sup> OF UNION FUNDS TO SUPPORT POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRAMS OR CANDIDATES OPPOSED BY INDIVIDUAL APPELLEES DOES NOT VIOLATE ANY FEDERAL CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHT OF SUCH PERSONS**

Assuming *arguendo* that the issues before the Georgia courts in this case were left open by the *Hanson* decision, it is further submitted that there is in fact no violation of Federal constitutional rights involved.

The crux of the decision of the Georgia Supreme Court is that the union shop agreements here involved violate the rights of freedom of speech of the individual appellees under the First Amendment to the United States Constitution and deprives them of their property without due process of law under the Fifth Amendment because a part of the money paid by such individuals to the appellant organizations pursuant to such agreements is used to support political and economic programs and candidates which the plaintiffs-appellees not only do not approve but oppose (R. 266-270).

The court's conclusion that First Amendment rights of the individual appellees are violated is based on the following grounds (R. 269):

"One who is compelled to contribute the fruits of his labor to support or promote political or economic programs or support candidates for public office is just as much deprived of his freedom of speech as if he were compelled to give his vocal support to doctrines he opposes. Abraham Lincoln asserted a similar view when he said: 'I believe each individual is naturally entitled to the fruits of his labor, so far as it in no wise interferes with any other man's right.' There is a



common saying, that 'Money talks—sometimes louder than the spoken word.' In the case at bar, the personal convictions of the plaintiffs on political and economic issues are being combatted by the use of their financial contributions to foster programs and ideologies which they oppose."

The court's conclusion that Fifth Amendment rights of the individual appellees are violated is based on the following grounds (R. 269):

"If the requirement by the employer of his employee, as a condition of his employment, that he agree not to join a union, subjecting himself to be discharged if he did (now forbidden by the Railway Labor Act, 45 U.S.C.A. § 152, and the National Labor Relations Act, 29 U.S.C.A. § 157), is obnoxious to the employee's economic freedom to contract, then the requirement by the employer, based upon an act of the Federal Congress, that one in his employ as a condition of continued employment, would be compelled to join a union and pay dues, fees, and assessments which will be used in part for the support of ideologies he opposes, is likewise violative of his freedom to contract under the Fifth Amendment."

The fallacy underlying the court's conclusions with respect to the First Amendment is its assumption that use of union funds which are in part derived from payments made by the individual appellees to appellant organizations somehow deprives such individuals of their own views and the freedom to express such views.

It has long been recognized by this Court that the expenditure of moneys from the Federal treasury does not involve any injury to individual taxpayers which would furnish a basis for an appeal to the pre-

ventive powers of a court of equity. *Alabama Power Company v. Ickes*, 302 U.S. 464 (1938). Also *Massachusetts v. Mullen*, 262 U.S. 447 (1923). Similarly it is clear that the expenditure of union funds, small part of which may have been contributed by individuals who disagree with the purposes of the expenditures, does not inflict any injury upon such individuals nor can it even be said, as the California Supreme Court has pointed out (see *infra*, p. 27) that such expenditures involve the use of any one individual's money.

The Georgia court's conclusion is obviously at war with the facts of the situation and is an integral part of that court's views, candidly expressed in *Looper v. Georgia Southern & Florida Railway Company*, 21 Ga. 279, 99 S.E.2d 101 (1957), to the effect that this Court's decision in the *Hanson* case itself violates the principles of freedom of speech by denying the "right to work." In speaking of the *Hanson* decision in the *Looper* decision, the Georgia court stated (99 S.E.2d at 104):

"It strikes us as being a futile gesture to solemnly declare the sacred and indestructible constitutional right of one to freedom of speech and freedom of worship, and then sanction a denial of that same one's right to work which is the indispensable economic support without which neither freedom could endure. One could not for long enjoy speaking and worshipping freely if he was hungry and was denied bread or the means of obtaining it.

\* \* \* \*

"We believe that a single person armed with right—the right to work, should in all courts of justice be able to defeat the selfish demands of multitudes though they be members of a labor

union who seek to deprive him of that right. We would so rule in any case where we are allowed jurisdiction."

The contentions relied upon by the Georgia court were subjected to a searching analysis by the California Supreme Court in *DeMille v. American Federation of Radio Artists*, (Cal. Sup. Ct.) 187 P.2d 769 (1947) and were rejected by that court as based on erroneous assumptions. In that case the plaintiff, a well-known producer, was a member of the American Federation of Radio Artists and his employment by the Columbia broadcasting network as a producer of radio programs was subject to a union shop agreement. The union assessed each of its members \$1.00 for the purpose of setting up a fund to be used by the California State Federation of Labor to help bring about the defeat of a proposed "right to work" amendment to the California Constitution, outlawing union shop agreements, known as Proposition No. 12. Plaintiff refused to pay the assessment and was suspended from membership in the union. He then sought injunctive relief against the union. In support of this prayer for relief he contended, *inter alia*, that the levy of the assessment and his suspension for refusal to pay it infringed his constitutional right of suffrage, freedom of speech, press and assembly. The California Supreme Court described the plaintiff's contentions as follows (187 P.2d at 775):

"The plaintiff next contends that the levy of the assessment and the consequent suspension upon his refusal to meet it, infringed his constitutional right of suffrage, freedom of speech, press and assembly. He does not contend that he was prevented from voting as he pleased at the polls, or from exercising his free choice on the ballot;

nor that he was prevented from expressing publicly and privately his personal views in favor of Proposition No. 12; nor does he contend that the union engaged in any political activity or coercion upon him personally to vote in a particular way or to express himself individually in opposition to Proposition No. 12. Admittedly, the defendants did not prescribe what should be the members' individual beliefs nor declare that any expressions of individual members favorable to Proposition No. 12 would constitute grounds for charges of disloyalty. The plaintiff admits that nevertheless the compulsion by assessing \$1.00 on each member to provide a fund to be used by the union to oppose Proposition No. 12 was a violation of each and all of his stated individual rights.

"The ground of the plaintiff's assertion that his payment of the assessment would be a violation of his personal expression on his part contrary to his personal beliefs. He says: 'To compel appellant to hand in his pocket and to give money to the union leaders to be used to oppose Proposition No. 12 to be voted on at the election of November 1912 when he was unwilling to oppose it and when appellant's sentiments were in favor of Proposition No. 12, compelled appellant to give expression to his sentiments and to act contrary to his sentiments and to his thoughts, and \* \* \* to his opinion.' The giving of the money in opposition to appellant's sentiments was more eloquent than any words of actual words.' "

The California court rejected in the following language the plaintiff DeMille's assumptions, which are also inherent in the Georgia court's conclusion involved, that compulsory contribution to the fund to be used to defeat Proposition No. 12 amounted to a compulsory endorsement by him of such op-

and a use of his money for such purpose (187 P.2d at 776):

"The member and the association are distinct. The union represents the common or group interests of its members, as distinguished from their personal or private interest. Structurally and functionally, a labor union is an institution which involves more than the private or personal interests of its members. It represents organized institutional activity as contrasted with wholly individual activity. This difference is as well defined as that existing between individual members of the union." (United States v. White, 32 U.S. 694, at page 701. Dues and assessments paid by members to an association become the property of the association and any severable or individual interest therein ceases upon such payment. (Lawson v. Hewell, supra, 118 Cal. 613, 622; Rhode v. United States, 34 App. Cases, Dist. of Col. p. 249; Lamm v. Stoen, 226 Ia. 622, 284 N.W. 465; Carpenters Union v. Backman, 160 Ore. 520, 86 P.2d 456; Textile Workers Union v. Barrett, 19 R.I. 663; South Shore Country Club v. The People, 22 Ill. 75, 81 N.E. 805; Franklin v. Burnham, 40 Misc. Rep. 566, 82 N.Y. Supp. 882.) As such property they are subject to disbursement and expenditure by the association in pursuit of the lawful object or objects for which they were designated to be expended.

"It has been seen that union opposition to the adoption of Proposition No. 12 was an object within the sphere of the organic law of the Federation and its Local. Indeed, the plaintiff does not contend that the union may not thus speak. What he contends is that the union may not use his money for that purpose.

"The Local's declaration to pursue the objective and to authorize the raising of a fund for the purpose was expressed by the membership

through democratic procedures. It is too safe to assume that the Local's action was in accordance with the opinion of the majority members of the Local. *In no wise may it be said that it necessarily represented the opinion of every individual member thereof, and consequently that of the plaintiff.*" (Emphasis supplied)

The court went on to point out that mere disagreement with the majority did not excuse plaintiff from paying the assessment. Its statement on this point may be read (187 P.2d at 776):

"Mere disagreement with the majority does not absolve the dissenting minority from compliance with action of the association taken through authorized union methods. And compliance with payment by the plaintiff of the assessment does not stamp his act as a personal endorsement of the declared view of the majority. Majoritarianism necessarily prevails in all constitutional governmental arrangements including our federal, state, county and municipal bodies, else payment of a tax levied by a duly authorized and proper objective body would be avoided by the mere assertion of beliefs and opinions opposed to the accomplishment of the public benefit. In a government based on democratic principles, the benefit as perceived by the majority prevails. And the individual citizen would raise but a cry of invasion of his constitutional rights if he seek to avoid his obligation because of a difference in personal views. A member of a voluntary association should not be permitted successfully to seek a similar avoidance."

The court then concluded, after analyzing the facts relied upon by plaintiff, that plaintiff's assumption that the assessment amounted to compulsion upon him to adopt the union view was without merit. The



cluding finding of the court read as follows (187 P.2d at 778):

"In his reliance on the foregoing and other similarly distinguishable cases, the plaintiff has assumed that the union's action in levying an assessment for the purpose stated was some sort of compulsion upon him to adopt the union view of what was best for union interests, and that payment thereof would be an expression on his part of the union belief. As has been seen the assumption is not warranted by the facts."

The court also noted that the principles enunciated by it did not involve any novel development, but simply an application to labor unions of views that had always prevailed with respect to medical associations and bar associations. On this point the California court stated (187 P.2d at 776-777):

"The plaintiff states that this is a case of first impression. But the principles involved and applicable to the facts are not new. Here novelty is present only in the assertion that the proper use of association funds may be avoided by a member who is committed to a minority view. Other organizations, such as Medical Associations, Bar Associations, and the like, have used their funds to support favorable legislation or defeat measures considered in the opinion of the majority or its duly authorized representatives to be inimical to the public interest or to its own welfare. It has never been considered that a difference of opinion within the association as to the use of association funds for such purposes, where otherwise lawful, was a matter for judicial interference."

The analogy drawn by the court to bar associations is the same as that drawn by this Court in the *Hanson* opinion (page 238) where it is stated:

"Wide-ranged problems are tendered First Amendment. It is argued that shop agreement forces men into ideological political associations which violate their freedom of conscience, freedom of association, freedom of thought protected by the First Rights. It is said that once a man becomes a member of these unions he is subject to disciplinary control and that by force of the National Labor Relations Act unions now can make him conform to a particular ideology.

"On the present record, there is no infringement or impairment of First Amendment rights than there would be in the case of a man who by state law is required to be a member of an integrated bar."

The decision of the Georgia Supreme Court concerning the application of the First Amendment to union shop agreements is also contrary to the holding in *Wicks v. Southern Pacific Company*, 121 F.2d 454, *aff'd*, 231 F.2d 130 (9th Cir., 1956), *cert. denied*, 352 U.S. 946.<sup>4</sup>

The Georgia court's rationale as to why the First Amendment rights of individual appellees are violated is equally erroneous on its face. The court's substance that since the Railway Labor Act and the National Labor Relations Act prohibit so-called "low dog" contracts, it follows that the authorization of union shop agreements in the circumstances involved amounts to a violation of the First Amendment contract given to individual appellees by the First Amendment. The conclusion is a complete

<sup>4</sup> The petition for certiorari in this case was denied 352 U.S. 946, 1956, a week after issuance of the *Hanson* decision.

sequitur from the premise. Moreover, the argument is simply a restatement of the "right to work" theory to which the Georgia court clearly stated it was dedicated in the *Looper* decision. *Supra*, pages 17-18. This argument was forcefully rejected by the Appellate Court of Indiana sitting *en banc* in *Smith v. General Motors Corp.*, 143 N.E.2d 441 (1957) with the following finding (143 N.E.2d at 449):

"Appellant's constitutional argument proceeds upon the assumption that a worker may force his employment upon a particular employer, which is the situation where an employer has made a voluntary contract determining whom he will or will not employ. To force an employer to take any particular worker on the ground that he has a right to work at the particular job certainly smacks of totalitarianism."

Contentions that union shop agreements violated the Fifth Amendment were also rejected in *Wicks v. Southern Pacific Company*, 121 F. Supp. 454, *aff'd* 231 F.2d 130 (9th Cir. 1956), *cert. den.* 351 U.S. 946, and similar contentions respecting the Fourteenth Amendment were rejected by the New York Court of Appeals in *Williams v. Quill*, 277 N.Y. 1, 32 N.E. 2d 347 (1938).<sup>5</sup>

In addition, the War Labor Board during World War II rejected contentions that union shop agreements were contrary to basic public policy because they permit use of governmental authority to make possible political contributions. *In re Carnegie-Illinois Steel Corp. et al. and United Steelworkers of*

<sup>5</sup> An appeal to this Court was dismissed for want of a final judgment, *Williams v. Quill*, 303 U. S. 621 (1938).

*America*, 15 LRRM 1596 (1944).<sup>6</sup> On Board stated (15 LRRM at 1598):

"Unions in basic steel industry a continuation of maintenance-of-meetings union-shop provisions contained in contracts between parties, despite contentions of others, that unauthorized work stoppages taken place and that political activity by parent body makes such provision against public policy because it permits union mental authority to make possible contributions, since general record of union one of responsibility and cooperation into internal affairs of union, as company, is not warranted by Board.

There is a suggestion in the opinion of the Supreme Court that the union shop agreements involved are invalid in this case because of the plaintiffs are not seeking employment as railroad contractors but are already employed (269). The decree of the trial court for enforcement of the agreements (R. 105) does not contain any such distinction. Moreover, such distinction is wholly without merit. In *McMullen v. Oklahoma and Gulf Railway Co.*, 229 F.2d 101 (9th Cir., 1956), *cert. den.* 351 U.S. 918, an attack upon an agreement negotiated by a railroad containing a provision for compulsory membership of railroad engineers at the age of 70. The plaintiffs were engineers who were already of age of 70. It was contended by them that under the circumstances the agreement was invalid because no notice had been given to them and it deprived them of property rights in violation of the Fifth

<sup>6</sup> Reference is to Labor Relations Reference Manual.

this point the

are entitled to membership and in previous contentions, among stoppages have activity engaged in union contrary to use of government political union has been and inquiry as suggested by board policy."

of the Georgia agreements in of the fact that payment with the y employed (R. rt enjoining en. 5) does not con- , such a distine- *Fullans v. Kansas*, 29 F.2d 50 (10th attack was made railroad brother- compulsory retire- age of 70. The already over the m that in the cir- id because no no- deprived them of Fifth Amendment

ce Manual.

to the Federal Constitution. The Tenth Circuit rejected this argument with the following finding (2 F.2d at 56):

"These contentions are without merit. It is conceded that the B.L.F.&E. was the duly selected and certified bargaining agent for the craft including these plaintiffs, with authority to contract with the railroad on matters relating to rates, pay, rules and working conditions. The Railway Labor Act requires railroads to 'treat with' certified representatives of the employees and with no others. 45 U.S.C.A. § 152, Ninth; *Virginian Co. v. System Fed.* No. 40, 300 U.S. 515, 545, 557 S.Ct. 592; 81 L.Ed. 789; *Lewellyn v. Fleming* supra. In the *Lewellyn* case [154 F.2d 213], it was stated that the Act 'undoubtedly included the authority to prospectively contract with reference to seniority rights of the members of the craft, whether members of the union or not'. The compulsory retirement provisions of the contract with which we are dealing are prospective, and are not retroactive in any respect. They do not affect rights already accrued. They seek to change existing terms of the contract and to apply the changes in the future. This, the bargaining agent has the power to do. *Elgin, J. & E. Ry. Co. v. Burley*, 325 U.S. 711, 739, 65 S.Ct. 1282, 89 L.Ed. 1886. The contractual provisions were for the collective interests of all the employees represented, even though some were adversely affected. Since the Railway Labor Act does not create permanent status for employees or fix unlimited tenure in their jobs, there was no violation of the plaintiffs' Constitutional rights."

To the same effect is the decision of the Supreme Court of Missouri in *Cook v. Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters*, 309 S.W.2d 579, 587 (1958) involving union shop agreements.

The Georgia court stands alone  
it has reached.

### CONCLUSION

Upon the basis of the foregoing  
ties, it is respectfully submitted that  
the Georgia Supreme Court should

Respectfully submit

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February, 1960



MOTION FOR LEAVE TO  
FILE A BRIEF AS AMICUS  
CURIAE AND BRIEF FOR  
THE AMERICAN FEDERATION  
OF LABOR AND CONGRESS  
OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATION  
AS AMICUS CURIAE

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IN THE  
**Supreme Court of the United States**

OCTOBER TERM, 1959

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF MACHINISTS,  
ET AL., *Appellants,*

S. B. STREET, ET AL.

ON APPEAL FROM THE SUPREME COURT OF THE  
STATE OF GEORGIA

MOTION FOR LEAVE TO FILE A BRIEF  
AS AMICUS CURIAE  
AND  
BRIEF FOR THE AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR  
AND CONGRESS OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS  
AS AMICUS CURIAE

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IN THE  
**Supreme Court of the United States**

OCTOBER TERM, 1959

NO. 258

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF MACHINISTS  
ET AL., *Appellants,*

v.

S. B. STREET, ET AL.

ON APPEAL FROM THE SUPREME COURT OF THE  
STATE OF GEORGIA

MOTION FOR LEAVE TO FILE A BRIEF  
AS AMICUS CURIAE

The American Federation of Labor and Congress Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO) hereby respectfully moves for leave to file a brief *amicus curiae* in this case in support of appellants, as provided in Rule 42 of the Rules of this Court. The consent of the attorneys for the appellants has been obtained. The consent of the attorneys for the appellees was requested but refused.

The AFL-CIO is primarily a federation of national and international labor unions, including all of the appellee unions. Total membership of the unions affiliated with the AFL-CIO is approximately thirteen million. Technically, the appellees here are challenging the validity of union contracts executed by appellants pursuant to section Eleven of the Railway Labor Act, as amended by the Act of January 10, 1951, 64 Stat. 1238, 45 U.S.C. §

Eleventh. Realistically, appellees are challenged of labor organizations, such as the AFL-CIO, to enter into union shop contracts without one of the most effective means available for the best interests of their membership: political action.

-Appellants will discuss in detail the technical supporting the lawfulness of such union action. If the present motion is granted, the AFL-CIO will present before the Court an outline of historical and contemporary evidence establishing that political activity has traditionally been an integral and vitally essential feature of the labor program for improving their lot through organization. Their own treatment of the legal issues will be confined to a summary, intended only to place the historical and economic data in their proper context. We feel that the material we present will assist the Court in understanding the leading role of union political action in American labor, and in assaying the soundness of the arguments that political action continues to be a necessary element of any truly effective program for economic betterment of the worker.

Respectfully submitted,

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February 1960

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IN THE  
**Supreme Court of the United States**

OCTOBER TERM, 1959

NO. 258

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF MACHINISTS  
ET AL., *Appellants*,

*v.*

S. B. STREET, ET AL.

ON APPEAL FROM THE SUPREME COURT OF GEORGIA

BRIEF FOR THE AMERICAN FEDERATION OF  
LABOR AND CONGRESS OF INDUSTRIAL  
ORGANIZATIONS AS AMICUS CURIAE

**INTEREST OF THE AFL-CIO**

This brief *amicus curiae* is filed by the American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO), contingent upon the Court's granting Motion for Leave to File a Brief as Amicus Curiae.

Appellants herein are relying upon the validity of Section 2, Eleventh of the Railway Labor Act, as amended by the Act of January 10, 1951, 64 Stat. 1238, 45 U.S.C. § 151, Eleventh, and upon the validity of union shop agreements executed pursuant thereto. Appellants are affiliated with the AFL-CIO. Numerous other labor organizations are affiliated with the AFL-CIO, as well as appellants, who are critically affected by an adverse decision in this case, and they are operating under thousands of similar union agreements executed pursuant to the proviso contain-

section 8(a)(3) of the National Labor Relations Act. An adverse decision might, in effect, compel the union either to give up the union shop, or to abandon its political and essential activities in the political fields. The AFL-CIO, whose affiliated unions represent approximately thirteen million American workers, is the most direct and compelling kind of interest to come of the present litigation.

### ARGUMENT

The court below held, inter alia, that the use of funds for the promotion of political propaganda by the appellees, where such funds are collected from union shop agreements permitted under section 8(a)(3) of the Railway Labor Act, violates appellees' rights under the First and Fifth Amendments to the Constitution of the United States (R. 249-250). This brief was filed in support of these startling constitutional propositions.

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<sup>1</sup> Two other teasing questions merit a brief word.

(1) As we read the opinion of the court below, it is based on an interpretation of the Federal Constitution. Whether Georgia law was not discussed by the Georgia Supreme Court. Indeed, union shop or closed shop contracts have been held valid under the state's common law. See *Savoy v. Telegraph Co.*, 198 Ga. 728, 735-736, 32 S.E. 2d 801 (1940). And the state's "right-to-work" law, which expressly excludes the interstate railroad industry, Georgia Code § 54-901(a) (1958 Supp.). The question whether a federal constitutional question was presented in this case below. For it would appear that where there would be a right of action against the state under a statute or common law, but for the intervention of the National Labor Act, does the question of the constitutionality of a provision like section 2, Eleventh arise in the first instance? In *Otten v. Baltimore & O. R. Co.*, 205 F. 2d 1011, 1012 (D.C. Md. 1956), see 65 Yale L. J. 724, 729-730 (1956). But in the present case, the constitutional issue, the court below appears to have

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Appellees' contentions have already been rejected  
Court in *Railway Employees' Department v. Hanson*,  
U.S. 225. The Court was there apprised that union  
collected pursuant to union shop agreements were  
used for political purposes. The validity of such union  
agreements was nonetheless upheld.

We submit that constitutional rights are not at  
since no governmental action is involved in a union's  
tiation of a union shop contract or in its use of its funds  
to promote workers' economic interests through appropriate  
political and legislative activities.

But even if there is here sufficient governmental  
to invoke the application of constitutional limitations,  
submit that no constitutional rights are violated.  
political expenditures in no way impair minority me-  
First Amendment freedoms of speech or of associa-  
Furthermore, they meet the Fifth Amendment re-  
quirements of due process, since, in light of the special pu-  
and problems of labor unions, such expenditures are  
"unreasonable, arbitrary or capricious," but rather  
means having "a real and substantial relation to the  
sought to be attained." *Nebbia v. New York*, 291 U.S.

the trial court's improvisation of a new state policy against  
shop contracts in the railroad industry (R. 265-266).

(2) The precise conclusion of the court below was that the  
of union funds for certain political purposes violated ap-  
constitutional rights (R. 250). The validity of union shop  
agreements, as such, under section 2, Eleventh of the Railway La-  
bor Act has of course already been upheld by this court. *Railway Em-  
ployees' Department v. Hanson*, 351 U.S. 225. If appellees' consti-  
tutional rights were imperiled by the use of funds collected pursu-  
ant to valid contracts, we submit that a state court could properly  
protect those rights only by enjoining the unconstitutional use of  
union monies, and not by enjoining the enforcement of a contract  
under applicable preemptive federal law, as was done here  
(R. 106). See 32 Tulane L. Rev. 508, 511-512 (1958).

525. In support of this latter point we will adduce, as the principal contribution intended by this brief, historical and economic data to establish that political activity is a traditional and indeed a vital element in workers' programs for improving their economic status through unionism.

**I. This Court Has Upheld The Constitutionality Of Section 2, Eleventh In Permitting Union Shop Agreements Even Though Dues Collected Thereunder Are Used For Political Purposes Opposed By Some Employees.**

In *Railway Employees' Dept. v. Hanson*, 351 U.S. 225, this Court upheld the constitutionality of section 2, Eleventh of the Railway Labor Act. In so doing it reversed the Nebraska Supreme Court's decision in *Hanson v. Union Pacific R. Co.*; 160 Neb. 669, 71 N.W. 2d 526 (1955). Nebraska had found violations of the First and Fifth Amendments in section 2, Eleventh and in the union shop agreements executed under its authorization. Among the reasons advanced were the following:

1. An employee's freedoms were infringed in that "some of these labor organizations advocate political ideas, support political candidates, and advance national economic concepts which may or may not be of an employee's choice." 160 Neb. at 697.

2. An employee was denied due process in that the means selected had no "real and substantial relation to the object sought to be obtained \* \* \* because by requiring him to pay initiation fees, dues and assessments he is required to pay for many things besides the cost of collective bargaining," 160 Neb. at 699.

The Transcript of Record before this Court in *Hanson* clearly showed that union dues were used for political purposes. These included the political education of union members, endorsement and support of individual candidates for public office, and manifold lobbying activities. (See Record



in No. 451, October Term, 1955, pp. 103-104, 125, 136, 141-144, 151, 254-256.)

In the face of such evidence, this Court unanimously rejected the constitutional attacks upon the validity of section 2, Eleventh and the union shop agreement identical to the one here challenged. Whether to require "the beneficiaries of trade unionism to contribute to its costs" was deemed a policy question for the Congress, not a matter of due process. 351 U.S. at 235. Payment of the "periodic dues, initiation fees, and assessments" authorized by the statute was equated with financial support relating "to the work of the union in the realm of collective bargaining," and a "more precise allocation of union overhead" was not demanded.<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*

Despite the manifest proof of union political activities, this Court concluded that on the record before it there was "no more an infringement or impairment of First Amendment rights than there would be in the case of a lawyer who by state law is required to be a member of an integrated bar." 351 U.S. at 238. The Court reserved judgment on the question which would be presented if the "exaction" of dues was "used as a cover for forcing ideological conformity or other action in contravention of the First Amendment." *Ibid.* It is this guarded language which the Supreme Court of Georgia has seized upon to justify the decision below. (R. 251). We submit there is nothing whatsoever in the present record to suggest that "ideological conformity" has been imposed on railroad employees, either through financial exactions, or internal discipline, or any other means.

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<sup>2</sup> That political activities indeed "relate to" and are "germane to" the union's work in the realm of collective bargaining will be confirmed by the historical and economic data contained in Part IV, *infra*, p. 14 ff.

In short, we are in full accord with the argument presented in much greater detail by appellants: the issues now before this Court are substantially identical with those before it in *Hanson*. The decision in *Hanson* should thus be dispositive of this case.<sup>3</sup>

**II. No Governmental Action, And Hence No Constitutional Limitations, Are Involved In A Union's Use Of Its Funds For Political Activities.**

The lower federal courts have consistently held that labor unions are private organizations and not governmental in character. Therefore an individual generally may not invoke the protection of the Constitution against them. *Courant v. International Photographers*, 176 F.2d 1000 (9th Cir. 1949), *cert. den.* 338 U.S. 943; *Williams v. Yellow Cab Co.*, 200 F.2d 302 (3d Cir. 1952), *cert. den.* 346 U.S. 840; *Otten v. Baltimore & O. R. Co.*, 205 F.2d 58 (2d Cir. 1953); *Wicks v. Southern Pacific Co.*, 121 F.Supp. 454 (S.D. Cal. 1954), *affd.* 231 F.2d 130 (9th Cir. 1956), *cert. den.* 351 U.S. 946; *Oliphant v. Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen*, 262 F.2d 359 (6th Cir. 1958), *cert. den.* 355 U.S. 935, *cert. den.* 359 U.S. 962.

This Court itself has remarked, in *American Communications Assn. v. Douds*, 339 U.S. 382, 402:

"We do not suggest that labor unions which utilize the facilities of the National Labor Relations Board become Government agencies or may be regulated as such."

We are fully aware that in several cases this Court has held or has suggested that certain actions of private groups

<sup>3</sup> So held in *Allen v. Southern R. Co.*, 249 N. C. 491, 107 S. E. 2d 125 (1959). See also the invariably hostile reception accorded the decisions below in 42 Minn. L. Rev. 1179 (1958); 32 Tulane L. Rev. 508 (1958); 3 Vil. L. Rev. 230 (1958); 45 Va. L. Rev. 44 (1959).

or organizations are subject to constitutional limitations. However, in each of these situations there was present one or more of the following three crucial elements:

1. The private body was exercising a basic state function, typically with the affirmative cooperation of the state. *Smith v. Allwright*, 321 U.S. 649 (running a primary political election); *Marsh v. Alabama*, 326 U.S. 501 (running a company town); *Terry v. Adams*, 345 U.S. 461 (running a preliminary primary political election).

2. The private body was invoking affirmative state action by seeking judicial enforcement or recognition of a private contract. *Shelley v. Kraemer*, 334 U.S. 1; *Barrows v. Jackson*, 346 U.S. 249.\*

3. The private body had derived its power to act in a particular capacity or engage in a specific activity, usually monopolistic or exclusive, by virtue of a statute, and was regulated in the exercise of this power by governmental authority. *Steele v. Louisville & N. R. Co.*, 323 U.S. 192 (exclusive collective bargaining representative required by Congress to represent all members of a craft without discrimination); *Public Utilities Commission v. Pollak*, 343 U.S. 451 (public transport utility specifically permitted by governmental commission to operate radio programs); *Railway Employees' Department v. Hanson*, 351 U.S. 225 (exclusive collective bargaining representative expressly authorized by Congress to enter into union shop agreements otherwise invalid under state law).

None of the above bases for finding governmental action is present in this case.

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\* Both of these cases, involving racial restrictive covenants, may also have been influenced by considerations akin to element No. 1. In effect, private parties were seeking to exercise the usually public function of "zoning" property.

1. In spending funds to promote the political and legislative interests of itself and the employees it represents, the union is not fulfilling "a basic state function." See *Wilbur v. Yellow Cab Co.*, 200 F.2d 302, 307 (3d Cir. 1952), *den.* 346 U.S. 840. It is instead exercising some of the characteristic prerogatives of *private* persons in a society: the expression of political views and the support of political candidates. Indeed, this Court has suggested the strongest terms that any attempt "to prohibit the publication, by corporations and unions in the regular course of conducting their affairs, of periodicals advising members, stockholders, or customers of danger or a threat to their interests from the adoption of measures of election to office of men, espousing such measures," would raise the gravest constitutional questions. *United States v. CIO*, 335 U.S. 106, 121. See also *United States v. Packer Local No. 481*, 172 F.2d 854 (2d Cir. 1949); cf. *United States v. UAW-CIO*, 352 U.S. 567.

2. Expenditure of union funds for political purposes does not involve state action in the enforcement of a union shop contract. The contract itself has already been held valid by this Court in *Hanson*. And in *Hanson* the Court's concern was directed toward a possible attempt to impose "ideological conformity" through the "exaction of dues, initiation fees, or assessments" under the contract. 351 U.S. at 238. (Emphasis supplied.) What precise use a union subsequently makes of its funds is not determined by the terms of the union shop contract whereby employee dues and assessments are collected. That is a matter for determination by the majority of the union membership or by duly elected union officials acting under the union's governing rules. Such determination is thus wholly a matter of voluntary private action, with no state action involved.

3. The right or power of a union to make political expenditures is neither derived from nor regulated by s

or other governmental authority. Whenever this Court has indicated that union action might be subject to constitutional limitations, the *specific activity* in which the union was engaging would have been unauthorized or prohibited but for Congressional intervention. In *Steele* the union had been authorized to enter into contracts covering the wages, hours, and working conditions of persons not members, regardless of the wishes of such persons. 323 U.S. at 199. In *Hanson* it had been authorized to enter into union shop contracts regardless of state laws to the contrary. 351 U.S. at 231-232. The appellant unions here do not rely on federal law authorizing union political activities or expenditures, because there is no such law.<sup>5</sup> They rely only on the right of a private organization to run its own affairs in the best interests of its membership, absent any properly applicable governmental controls.

There is of course nothing incongruous in concluding that some union activities may be subject to constitutional limitations while others are not. Although holding the union in *Steele* to the duty of nondiscriminatory representation of all employees in the craft, this Court expressly noted that "the statute does not deny to such a bargaining labor organization the right to determine eligibility to its membership." 323 U.S. at 204. In *Public Utilities Commission v. Pollak*, 343 U.S. 451, 462-463, this Court was careful to point out that it was not finding state action in a public transport utility's operation of a radio service merely because the public utility operated a transport monopoly under authority of Congress. To find that the specific activity of operating the radio service involved

<sup>5</sup> No one is contending that the conduct at issue in this case would be covered by 18 U.S.C. § 610 (§304 of the Taft-Hartley Act), which prohibits unions as such from making contributions or expenditures in federal elections (R. 232). There are no similar state laws at issue here.

state action, the Court relied on the fact that the commission had conducted an investigation and expressly permitted the operation of the radio serially, even when unions have been most zealous of the constitutional standards of due process in the exercise of their statutory power as exclusive bargaining representatives, it has been recognized that "a union is essentially a private organization." *Murphy, J., concurring in Steele*, 323 U.S. at 208.\*

### **III. Any Governmental Action Involved In A Union's Funds For Political Activities Violates Neither The First Nor Fifth Amendments.**

Assuming *arguendo* that unions can be held to constitutional standards in the expenditure of funds for political purposes, we submit that there has been shown any violation of appellees' rights of free speech or assembly under the First Amendment, or of their right to due process under the Fifth Amendment.

#### **A. FREE SPEECH AND ASSEMBLY UNDER THE FIRST AMENDMENT**

There is nothing in the present record which indicates that the unions in any way have prevented any individuals from expressing their political views or supporting the political candidates of their choice.

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\* In urging that union political activities do not amount to governmental action so as to invoke constitutional protection, the Court naturally do not mean to suggest that union members are entitled to a remedy if union funds are misused for political or for other purposes. In addition to state common law obligations, union officials are under a statutory duty to hold a union's money and property "solely for the benefit of the organization and its members," and union members are empowered to sue in federal court to enforce this duty and recover any misapplied funds. See sec. 501 of the Labor-Management Reporting and Disclosure Act of 1959, 73 Stat. 535, 29 U.S.C. § 501.



inside or outside of union meetings, or through any means of communication. Free speech even in a government context can mean no more than that the minority is left wholly free to express its dissent. For the hallmark of democratic government is majority rule. And it is the majority that has charted the unions' political course. See *DeMille v. American Federation of Radio Artists*, 351 U.S. 139, 187 P. 2d 769 (1947), cert. den. 333 U.S. 872 (upholding power of a union operating under a union shop to levy assessments to oppose a right-to-work law); cf. *NLRB v. A. J. Tower Co.*, 329 U.S. 324, 331. Nor does freedom of assembly encompass the right to remain unorganized. *Senn v. Tile Layers Protective Union*, 301 U.S. 468. As this Court declared in *Hanson*, the union shop thus represents no more an infringement of First Amendment rights than state laws providing for an integrated bar. 351 U.S. at 238.

Appellants in their brief fully explore the relevance of the *DeMille* decision and of the numerous decisions on the status of the integrated bar. We will not burden the Court with a repetition of appellants' thorough demonstration that no First Amendment rights are impaired in the present instance.

#### B. DUE PROCESS UNDER THE FIFTH AMENDMENT

In *Webb v. New York*, 291 U.S. 502, 525, this Court enunciated the principle that "the guarantee of due process . . . demands only that the law shall not be unreasonable, arbitrary or capricious, and that the means selected shall have a real and substantial relation to the object sought to be attained." The "relevant facts" of each situation determine the reasonableness of any given law or regulation. *Ibid.* To the same effect are *West Coast Hotel Co. v. Parrish*, 300 U.S. 379, 391; *Virginia R. Co. v. System Federation No. 40*, 300 U.S. 515, 558.

Assume that a union is engaging in government when it spends funds on political activities, and subject to the due process restrictions of the First Amendment. Nonetheless, the nature of this government and the nature and the scope of the activities surely can be determined only on the basis of the needs which prompted its formation.<sup>7</sup> As was the political philosopher whose credentials antedate those of this Court: "A state arises out of the need of a kind."<sup>8</sup> To determine the proper objects of a "state" or specialized government instrumentalities are now assuming a union is, and to determine what may reasonably be selected to attain those objects must look to the needs of *laboring* men.

In resolving due process questions in the field of labor, this Court has consistently looked to history and to determine the reasonableness of Congressional action in meeting the needs of labor and management. See *Co. v. System Federation No. 40*, 300 U.S. 515 (1932); *Way Employees' Department v. Hanson*, 351 U.S. 236, 239-240. In *Colgate-Palmolive-Peet Co. v. U.S.*, 355, 362-363, where the Court regarded the provision of the Wagner Act as presenting no question for Congress and not a constitutional issue, the history led to the following comments:

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<sup>7</sup> Even in imposing a "fiduciary responsibility" on unions, Congress recognized the necessity for "taking into account special problems and functions of a labor organization." 501(a), Labor-Management Reporting and Disclosure Act, 73 Stat. 535, 29 U.S.C. § 501(a). Specifically, Senators Kennedy and Kennedy made clear that the fiduciary provision was not intended to interfere with unions' political activities, "whatever the union is doing 'whatever the members want to do.'" 105 Cong. Rec. 5857 (April 23, 1959 daily ed.); 105 Cong. Rec. 164 (1959 daily ed.).

<sup>8</sup> Plato, *The Republic*, bk. II, p. 60 (Modern Library).

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"One of the oldest techniques in the art of collective bargaining is the closed shop. It protects the interests of the union and provides stability to labor relations. To achieve stability of labor relations was the primary objective of Congress in enacting the National Labor Relations Act. Congress knew that a closed shop would interfere with freedom of employees to organize in another union and would, if used, lead inevitably to discrimination in tenure of employment. Nevertheless, . . . Congress inserted the proviso of § 8 (a)(3) which is not necessary for us to justify the policy of the Act. It is enough that we find it in the statute."

The attitude expressed in *Colgate-Palmolive-Peet* assumes a special relevance when we consider precisely what the appellees are presently asking this Court to hold. Section 2, Eleventh of the Railway Labor Act does not require unions and employers to enter into union security arrangements; it merely *permits* them to. In this respect the Railway Labor Act amendment authorizing the union shop simply is equivalent to a *pro tanto* return to the common law—where the closed shop was recognized as one of the "oldest techniques in the art of collective bargaining," one which apparently posed no constitutional problem to this Court. We find it astounding for appellees now to insist that, as a matter of constitutional due process, Congress cannot restore the situation existing at common law unless (1) Congress legislates a requirement that monies collected under a union shop agreement be used for political purposes; or (2) this Court imposes, or in effect legislates, such a requirement. And if a federal statute does not otherwise violate due process in restoring the common law rule to the extent of permitting union shop agreements, we wholly fail to see how such a statute violates due process simply because it supersedes conflicting state law. This is but the normal operation of the supremacy clause of the Constitution (Article VI, clause 2).

A look at the history of union political activity provides abundant proof that labor's interest in politics is its interest in the closed shop or the union security fund. It provides full documentary support for legal conclusions that "political activity is a labor right";<sup>9</sup> that "political activities may be regarded as a collective bargaining insofar as favorable legislation or the defeat of unfavorable legislation, strengthening the union's bargaining position";<sup>10</sup> and that unions have a "legitimate interest" in lending financial support to economic causes.<sup>11</sup> In a word, even a brief survey of the history of union political activity establishes that union political activity is wholly germane to a union's work in the real world of collective bargaining, and thus a reasonable means to the union's proper object of advancing the economic interests of the worker. To such a survey we now turn.

#### **IV. Historical Survey And Analysis Of The Political Activities Of American Labor.**

##### **A. COLONIAL BEGINNINGS**

American labor went into politics as early as the colonial period.

<sup>9</sup> 65 Yale L. J. 724, 733 (1956).

<sup>10</sup> 45 Va. L. Rev. 441, 447 (1959).

<sup>11</sup> 3 Vil. L. Rev. 230, 232 (1958).

<sup>12</sup> The classic work on American labor for the period before 1860 is Commons and Associates, *History of Labor in the United States* (1918, 1935). Standard one-volume surveys are Montgomery, *Organized Labor* (1945); Dulles, *Labor in America* (1955); Rayback, *A History of American Labor* (1955). The material for our sketch of the colonial period is drawn from Rayback, *supra*, c. III, "Colonial Politics: Labor and Politics," p. 36. On the specific question of unions and politics in the colonial period, see Karson, *American Labor Unions and Politics*, 19 *Am. Stud.* 1 (1951); Hardman and Neufeld, eds., *The House of Labor: The Making of American Labor Unions and Political Activity*, p. 85 (1951); Bakke, *Unions, Management and the Public*, "Political and Economic Aspects of Labor Unionism," p. 215 (1948).

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A political organization known as the "Caucus," mostly of shipyard workers but also including c  
sans and shopkeepers, won for a time a firm gr  
town offices in Boston. Severe tightening of the  
during the 1740s, which lowered the income of  
workingmen, caused the Caucus to expand its hor  
alliance of the Caucus and a party of debtor fa  
cured control of the Massachusetts General C  
established a land bank to provide relief throug  
ance of paper money backed by real estate. The  
later destroyed by the Board of Trade.

This early incident in a sense epitomizes the  
labor to participate in political affairs. To p  
wages and his pocketbook, the worker must do  
bargain with his employer. He must join toge  
other wage earners to secure a favorable politic  
for advancing his economic interests. At times,  
in periods of business depression, this may mean  
direct government intervention. At all times th  
must realize that other powerful groups will also  
through organized political action to further their  
in opposition to his. This, too, the members of th  
found out.

In the middle of the eighteenth century politic  
designed to protect civil liberties and to further  
ers' demands for political equality with the privi  
sprang up in New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore,  
coastal towns.<sup>13</sup> These groups were generally led  
minded lawyers and merchants but the main body  
of workingmen. Such organizations prov led in  
the subsequent formation of the various Sons o  
groups, which during the late '60s played a maj  
demonstrations against the Stamp Act, the T

<sup>13</sup> Rayback, *American Labor*, pp. 24-25.

Act, and other British measures viewed by a threat to their economy and their liberty poses it is not necessary to trace in detail how helped counter the more conciliatory attitudes of the landed gentry toward the reform measures of the British Parliament, thus paving the way for the Revolution.<sup>14</sup>

## B. UNDER THE NEW REPUBLIC

Though numerous local labor organizations existed to bargain with employers over wage scales and rules, labor played an insignificant role in the Revolutionary War and the late 1820s. In 1828 the Workingmen's Labor Party of Philadelphia was the first labor party in the modern world. It was an outgrowth of the Philadelphia Mechanics' Associations which had been formed the previous year as a result of a strike of building trades mechanics for a ten-hour day. When nothing but failure greeted their action, the demand for the ten-hour day took on a public employment plank in the political platform of the Workingmen's Party.

In 1829 New York workers formed a Workingmen's Party to protect the ten-hour day they had obtained. Compounded of Skidmore agrarian elements, the New York workers' parties resorted to protests against economic exploitation as well as degraded citizenship, strongly condemning the consideration given in legislation to the rich through

Between 1831 and 1834 there existed in the United States a new type of labor organization, partly political and partly economic.

<sup>14</sup> *Id.*, pp. 32-36.

<sup>15</sup> Millis and Montgomery, *Organized Labor, and Associates, History of Labor*, vol. I, p. 191.

<sup>16</sup> Commons and Associates, *supra*, vol. I, p. 232.



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economic, the New England Association of Farm-  
chanics and Other Workmen.<sup>17</sup> Emerging out of the  
hour movement, the organization soon broadened  
objectives. Public education, especially of children  
factories, was assigned an importance equal to the  
hours of labor.

All these workers' parties had short lives. But  
efforts were not unavailing. Indeed, one of the principal  
reasons for their decline was that other established  
cal parties took up the causes that they had  
vigorously espoused. To these early political efforts  
organized workingmen has been attributed a large share  
the credit for the establishment of the public school  
the initiation of currency reforms, the abolition of  
prisonment for debt, the passage of mechanics' lien  
and the removal from unions of the stigma of  
conspiracy.<sup>18</sup>

In the mid-nineteenth century one of the primary  
primary aims was the establishment of the ten-hour  
Two distinct lines of attack were followed: the first  
sisting of legislative appeals, and the second of trade  
action. During the 1840s the first was most utilized.  
trade union demands upon employers for the ten-hour  
did not become prominent until the '50s.<sup>19</sup> As a result  
numerous insistent petitions to the legislatures from  
groups and their sympathizers, various kinds of trade  
laws were passed in New Hampshire, Pennsylvania,  
Rhode Island, California, and Georgia.

### C. THE RISE OF NATIONAL UNIONISM

The phenomenal industrial expansion of the  
States in the second half of the nineteenth century

<sup>17</sup> *Id.*, p. 302 ff.

<sup>18</sup> *Id.*, pp. 331-332; Dulles, *Labor in America*, pp. 46-50;  
*American Labor Unions and Politics*, p. 4.

<sup>19</sup> Commons and Associates, *History of Labor*, vol. I, p.

increasingly clear that "labor had to meet the challenge of nationwide industry by itself organizing on a nationwide basis."<sup>20</sup> In 1866 delegates from various local unions, trades assemblies, and national unions met in Baltimore and organized the National Labor Union.<sup>21</sup> Legislative action to secure the eight-hour day was the principal aim of the NLU. Currency reform was also assigned high priority. Throughout its six-year existence, the NLU was continually engaged in lobbying activities before Congress and state legislatures for an eight-hour law. In 1868 Congress passed an eight-hour law for government employees and a law prohibiting further contraction of the currency, thus answering to a considerable extent the demands of the NLU. Eight-hour legislation was also passed in six states, but its value proved rather illusory.

After the great strikes of July 1877, in which workingmen found themselves confronted by hostile state and federal troops, numerous workingmen's political parties appeared in all the industrial centers of the nation. A Greenback-Labor Party was formed with a platform advocating currency reforms, shorter hours, national and state bureaus of labor statistics, prohibition of convict labor, and the suspension of the importation of servile labor.<sup>22</sup> The aggregate Greenback-Labor vote in 1878 exceeded a million, and 14 candidates were elected to Congress. Independent political action by labor nearly succeeded in electing Henry George in the New York City mayoralty election of 1886; more significantly, the strong showing made by the labor forces resulted in the state legislature's passing a considerable number of protective labor laws.<sup>23</sup>

<sup>20</sup> Dulles, *Labor in America*, p. 99.

<sup>21</sup> Commons and Associates, *History of Labor*, vol. II, p. 96 ff.

<sup>22</sup> *Id.*, pp. 244-245.

<sup>23</sup> *Id.*, pp. 453-454.

In 1881 a hundred representatives of national and local unions and regional and local assemblies formed the Federation of Organized Trades and Labor Unions of the United States and Canada. This was the forerunner of the American Federation of Labor, which formally came into existence in 1886. The 1881 conference drew up a thirteen-point legislative program.<sup>24</sup> Almost from the outset the American Federation of Labor adopted the pattern of nonpartisan political action championed by its president, Samuel Gompers. But this meant only that the Federation would not establish an independent party or ally itself with any political party. The AFL continued to seek the election of persons sympathetic to its needs and to press for legislation favorable to the worker.<sup>25</sup>

<sup>24</sup> *Id.*, p. 324.

<sup>25</sup> Taft, *The A.F. of L. in the Time of Gompers*, pp. 289-292 (1957); David, "One Hundred Years of Labor in Politics," in Hardman and Neufeld, eds., *The House of Labor*, pp. 90-98. The traditional expression of AFL policy is quoted in Bakke and Kerr, eds., *Unions, Management and the Public*, p. 215:

"The partisanship of Labor is a partisanship of principle. The American Federation of Labor is not partisan to a political party, it is partisan to a principle, the principle of equal rights and human freedom. We, therefore, repeat: Stand faithfully by our friends and elect them. Oppose our enemies and defeat them; whether they be candidates for President, for Congress, or for other offices, whether Executive, Legislative or Judicial." (Emphasis in the original.)

Article II of the present AFL-CIO Constitution lists twelve objectives of the Federation. Two deal expressly with political activities:

"5. To secure legislation which will safeguard and promote the principle of free collective bargaining, the rights of workers, farmers and consumers, and the security and welfare of all the people and to oppose legislation inimical to these objectives."

"12. While preserving the independence of the labor movement from political control, to encourage workers to register and vote, to exercise their full rights and responsibilities of citizenship, and to perform their rightful part in the political life of the local, state and national communities."

Constitutions of national and international unions affiliated with the AFL-CIO contain analogous provisions.

At the convention of 1893 the Federation adopted political platform containing eleven planks. Among other things the program called for compulsory education, a legal eight-hour day, government inspection of mines and workshops, employer liability for injuries on the job, and the abolition of the sweating system.<sup>26</sup> The efforts of the A.F. together with the efforts of the Knights of Labor, the Populists, and various reform groups, were responsible for a substantial body of state labor legislation, which was enacted between 1886 and 1900.<sup>27</sup> This dealt primarily with labor arbitration, child labor and women's labor, factory and mine safety, responsibility for industrial accidents, and the eight-hour day.

#### D. REACTION, PROGRESS, AND NORMALCY

Unionism was flourishing at the turn of the century. Then abruptly the tide changed. Between 1902 and 1904 various employer groups launched a many-pronged "mass offensive" against the unions, proposing "to obliterate the whole concept of an organized labor movement from the pattern of American life."<sup>28</sup> Stiffening of attitudes at the bargaining table and a nation-wide campaign for the "open shop" were only the beginning. The press and the academic world were systematically enlisted to convince the public that "the enormous Labor Trust is the heaviest oppressor of the independent workingman": yet this appeal in the name of labor's rights only "thinly disguised an all-out drive against both union recognition and collective bargaining."<sup>29</sup>

<sup>26</sup> Commons and Associates, *History of Labor*, vol. II, pp. 50-510; Taft, *The A.F. of L. in the Time of Gompers*, p. 71 ff.

<sup>27</sup> Rayback, *American Labor*, pp. 181-184.

<sup>28</sup> *Id.*, p. 214. See also Perlman and Taft, *History of Labor in the United States, 1896-1932*, p. 129 ff. (1935); Karson, *American Labor Unions and Politics*, pp. 33-34; Taft, *The A.F. of L. in the Time of Gompers*, pp. 262-264.

<sup>29</sup> Dulles, *Labor in America*, pp. 195-196.

Spearheading the attack was the National Association of Manufacturers. In 1902 the NAM caused the defeat of labor-supported eight-hour and anti-injunction bills before Congress. And in the 1904 elections the NAM scored signal successes in its efforts "to cut off labor's influence at the source by defeating congressmen and senators favorable to labor."<sup>30</sup> As a final blow, the unions about this time suffered a series of crippling reverses in the courts, through the application of injunctions and the antitrust laws.<sup>31</sup>

In 1906 the AFL responded to the onslaught by presenting a "Bill of Grievances" to Congress and the President, protesting against the failure to enact an effective eight-hour law, the abuse of the injunction, and the perversion of antitrust laws.<sup>32</sup> Obtaining no satisfaction, the Federation then took more direct steps and campaigned actively to defeat labor's enemies in the elections of 1906, 1908, 1910, and 1912.<sup>33</sup>

These efforts bore fruit. In 1914 Congress passed the Clayton Act and supplied unions with a measure of relief against labor injunctions and the antitrust laws. A year later the AFL gained one of its long-sought objectives, a federal law granting rights and protection to seamen on vessels of American registry. And during the pre-war heyday of the progressive movement organized labor successfully supported the enactment of a vast quantity of state labor legislation.<sup>34</sup>

<sup>30</sup> Perlman and Taft, *History of Labor*, p. 152.

<sup>31</sup> See Taft, *The A.F. of L. in the Time of Gompers*, pp. 266-271; Gregory, *Labor and the Law*, pp. 95-104, 205-209 (1958). On the use of injunctions against unions, see generally Frankfurter and Greene, *The Labor Injunction* (1930).

<sup>32</sup> Taft, *The A.F. of L. in the Time of Gompers*, pp. 294-295.

<sup>33</sup> *Id.*, pp. 295-298; Karson, *American Labor Unions and Politics*, pp. 44-49, 53-73; Perlman and Taft, *History of Labor*, pp. 153-154, 156-158.

<sup>34</sup> Rayback, *American Labor*, p. 260 ff.

The pendulum once more swung against labor ~~decade~~ after the first World War. Strike after strike lapsed because, it was said, "the power of public opinion had strongly and definitely crystallized in favor of federal state and local police intervention in support of the employers and against the workers."<sup>35</sup> Organized labor's conspicuous political move during this period was its vigorous support of the independent candidacy of Robert F. Follette in the presidential election of 1924. The move polled nearly five million votes, and had a significant product: in 1926 the Congress elected in the La Follette campaign enacted the Railway Labor Act.<sup>36</sup>

#### E. DEPRESSION AND THE NEW DEAL

The depression which swept the country in the wake of the stock-market crash of 1929 was almost immediately reflected in the elections of 1930. The new Congress, concerned with labor welfare, studied dozens of bills for public works programs, for maximum work-hours, and other means of federal relief.<sup>37</sup> In 1932 labor's fortuitous campaign against the indiscriminate use of the labor injunction was crowned with success through the passage of the Norris-La Guardia Act.

But the spectacular renaissance of American unionism was to await the coming of the New Deal. The AFL officially maintained neutrality in the 1932 presidential campaign; however, there is no doubt that the labor movement contributed significantly to the victory of the new movement.<sup>38</sup>

<sup>35</sup> Dulles, *Labor in America*, pp. 230-231.

<sup>36</sup> Rayback, *American Labor*, pp. 300-301.

<sup>37</sup> *Id.*, p. 319.

<sup>38</sup> *Id.*, pp. 321-322; Dulles, *Labor in America*, p. 263. For a position of unions during this period, see generally Derb Young, eds., *Labor and the New Deal* (1957); Schlesinger, *Coming of the New Deal*, pp. 385-419 (1959).



The most important single expression of the pro-labor policy generally pursued under the New Deal was the passage in 1935 of the Wagner Act, protecting workers' rights to organize and bargain collectively. The Wagner Act was passed after a measure for safeguarding labor's organizational rights had been strongly urged upon Congress by President William Green of the AFL and by other union leaders. The Chamber of Commerce, the National Association of Manufacturers, and other industry groups had opposed such a bill.<sup>39</sup> Labor support of the New Deal during the congressional elections of 1934 also played a role in the passage of the Wagner Act and other favorable legislation.<sup>40</sup> New Deal welfare measures generally supported by organized labor included the Social Security Act and public works programs.

In the 1936 campaign labor groups, especially affiliates of the newly formed Congress of Industrial Organizations, invested a total of \$770,000.<sup>41</sup> The funds were divided among various political committees and organizations, but substantially all went to aid in the re-election of Roosevelt. Labor was continuing the traditional policy of furthering its cause by helping out its friends.

The highly publicized role played by the CIO's Political Action Committee in the 1944 campaign was partially responsible for a thorough investigation by a special Senate Committee on expenditures in the federal elections of that year. The findings were a striking refutation of any suggestion of undue union influence. Democratic and Republican organizations and committees spent a total of

<sup>39</sup> Taft, *The A.F. of L. from the Death of Gompers to the Merger*, pp. 122-129 (1959).

<sup>40</sup> Rayback, *American Labor*, p. 333.

<sup>41</sup> Overacker, *Presidential Campaign Funds*, pp. 50-51 (1946).

\$20,637,177.<sup>42</sup> Labor expenditures were as follows:<sup>43</sup>

**Labor Expenditures In 1944 Federal Election**

From union contributions to CIO-PAC . . . . .	\$
From individual contributions to CIO-PAC . . . . .	\$
National Citizens-PAC . . . . .	\$
<b>Total PAC . . . . .</b>	<b>\$</b>
Other labor groups . . . . .	\$
<b>Total all labor . . . . .</b>	<b>\$</b>

The total labor expenditure of 1.6 million dollars, both union dues and individual contributions counted for only 7.7 percent of the total Republican and Democratic federal expenditures of 20.6 million.

An even more startling revelation is that in the 1944 elections, 242 individuals representing 64 families made direct contributions to political organizations for an amount of \$1,277,121.<sup>44</sup> This means that expenditure on behalf of many millions of workers only slighted the contributions made by 64 families.

The immediate post-war years saw a vigorous expansion of collective bargaining. Engrossed in securing wage increases, unions made little effort to secure a political voice in the 1946 congressional elections. Only 33 million

<sup>42</sup> *Report of Special Committee to Investigate Presidential and Senatorial Campaign Expenditures*, No. 101, 79th Cong., 1st sess., P. 79 (hereinafter cited as *Report*). As the report indicates, the total figure of 20.6 million dollars excludes the bulk of expenditures by local organizations and also omits expenditures for candidates for the House of Representatives.

<sup>43</sup> *Green Report*, p. 23, app. IV, pp. 102-121.

<sup>44</sup> *Id.*, app. VIII, pp. 140-151.

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\$ 470,852.32  
\$ 378,424.78

\$1,327,775.92

\$ 252,481.18

\$1,580,257.10

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and labor was dealt its worst defeat since the inauguration of the New Deal.<sup>45</sup> A year later the full dimension of labor's political setback were revealed by the passage of the Taft-Hartley Act. The new Act followed in large degree the suggestions of the National Association of Manufacturers—which later reported it had spent over 4 million dollars during 1947 in what appear to be propaganda-connected activities.<sup>46</sup>

## F. THE CONTEMPORARY SCENE

The enactment of the Taft-Hartley law spurred the union to renewed political activity, and led to the creation of the Labor's League for Political Education.<sup>47</sup> An intense campaign by the League and the CIO-PAC brought out a large labor vote in unprecedented numbers in 1948, assisting the surprise re-election of President Truman. But the League failed to achieve its primary purpose of repealing the Taft-Hartley Act.

In 1952 the AFL formally endorsed the presidential candidacy of Adlai E. Stevenson. In announcing its support, the Federation cited the need to replace the Taft-Hartley Act, to develop a public low-rent housing program, to extend social security, and to establish a health insurance program. The CIO also endorsed Stevenson in 1952. Its endorsement was repeated in 1956 by the newly merged AFL-CIO. Labor generally had found unsatisfactory the record of the Eisenhower administration on unemployment, taxes, housing, federal aid to education, and fiscal

<sup>45</sup> Rayback, *American Labor*, p. 395 ff.

<sup>46</sup> *Id.*, p. 398; Cong. Q. Reports, p. 268 (1948).

<sup>47</sup> Taft, *The A.F. of L. from the Death of Gompers to the Present*, p. 311 ff. See also Kallenbach, "The Taft-Hartley Act and Political Contributions and Expenditure," 33 Minn. L. Rev. 1 (1948); Chang, "Labor Political Action and the Taft-Hartley Act," 33 Neb. L. Rev. 554 (1954); Laidler, "Labor's Role in American Politics," 36 Current History 321 (June 1959).

monetary measures. Redress once again was  
polls.

Political contributions and expenditures  
1956 general election campaigns were subject  
comprehensive Senatorial study.<sup>48</sup> Tabulation  
findings follow:

**Direct Political Expenditures in 1956**

	<i>Amount</i>
Republican .....	\$20,685,38
Democratic .....	\$10,977,79
Labor .....	\$ 941,27
Miscellaneous .....	\$ 581,27
<b>Totals .....</b>	<b>\$33,185,72</b>

**Individual and Group Contributions  
of \$500 or More in 1956 Election**

*Of Twelve Selected Families to:*

Republicans .....	
Democrats .....	
Other .....	
<b>Total .....</b>	

*Of Officials of 225 Largest Corporations to:*

Republicans .....	
Democrats .....	
Other .....	
<b>Total .....</b>	

<sup>48</sup> See *Report of Senate Subcommittee on Pensions to Committee on Rules and Administration Election Campaigns*, 85th Cong., 1st sess. (1957).

<sup>49</sup> For convenience the tabulations are drawn from *Almanac*, pp. 187-189 (1957).

was sought at the  
s relating to the  
bjected to a most  
ulations<sup>49</sup> of the

Elections

nt	Percent
387	62.3
790	33.1
271	2.8
277	1.8
<hr/>	
725	100

utions  
ions

.....	\$1,040,526
.....	\$ 107,109
.....	\$ 6,100
<hr/>	
.....	\$1,153,735
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.....	\$1,816,597
.....	\$ 103,725
.....	\$ 16,525
<hr/>	
.....	\$1,936,847

Privileges and Elec  
tration: 1956 General  
(1957).  
drawn from Cong. Q

Of Officials of 13 Professional, Business, and Similar Groups to:

Republicans .....	\$
Democrats .....	\$
Other .....	\$

Total ..... \$

Of National and International Union Officials to:

Democrats .....	\$
Republicans .....	\$

Total ..... \$

Of Labor Groups to:

Democrats .....	\$1
Republicans .....	\$

Total ..... \$1

As can be seen, the political contributions of a dozen families of means exceeded the total direct expenditures by workers during the 1956 campaign. If labor's direct expenditures are added to its political contributions, the total still barely exceeds 2 million. This is almost entirely offset just by the contributions of the officials of the 225 largest corporations. And the labor outlay of 2 million dollars was merely 6.4 per cent of the 31.7 million dollars spent by the Republican and Democratic parties and their candidates in the 1956 campaign. When it is considered that twelve families in the United States are capable of bringing to bear in an election campaign well over half as much money as organized labor, which represents 16 million workingmen and their families, some idea may be grasped of the magnitude of the task faced by workers in presenting their views to the public.

in seeking the election of persons sympathetic to their interests.

Labor today must attempt to operate with the assurance that it can secure groups with opposing interests expend the necessary amounts to achieve their purposes through the use of money. For example, between 1947 and 1950, General Motors expended more than 4.5 million dollars to tax-exempt organizations and trade associations.<sup>50</sup> The American Medical Association undertook a million dollar "political war chest" in its campaign to defeat the Truman medical insurance bill, which was favored by organized labor.<sup>51</sup> In the year of 1954 over 2 million dollars of the expenditure went for a "public information program" to influence times employers and employer-minded groups through their influence over the media of mass communication, which was unmatched by the workingman.<sup>52</sup> By contrast, in the crucial fiscal year preceding the passage of the Landrum-Griffin bill in 1959, which was a period of nation-wide efforts to enact state labor laws, the AFL-CIO's Legislative Department and its Committee on Political Education together spent only 1.15 million dollars.<sup>54</sup>

#### G: ANALYSIS

The preceding historical sketch provides a demonstration that political and legislative action is necessary to protect the interests of the workingman.

<sup>50</sup> *Report on Expenditures by Corporations and Organizations*, H. Rep. No. 3137, 81st Cong., 2d sess., p. 763 (1950).

<sup>51</sup> Hyde and Wolff, "The American Medical Association: Purpose and Politics in Organized Medicine," 1012 (1954).

<sup>52</sup> Key, *Politics, Parties, and Pressure Groups*.

<sup>53</sup> See, e.g., Chase, *Sound and Fury*, pp. 128-129, for a discussion on Freedom of the Press, *A Free and Open Society* (1947).

<sup>54</sup> AFL-CIO, *Report of the Executive Council*.



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while affluent pres-  
end ever increasing  
ugh political action.  
General Motors gave

npt propaganda or-

"In 1949-1950 the  
ook to amass a 3.5

its successful cam-  
insurance program,

In the not unusual  
the NAM's budget

ram."<sup>52</sup> And at all  
groups have an in-

munication wholly un-  
contrast, during the

age of the labor-op-  
which also covered a

state "right-to-work"  
rtment and its Com-

spent a total of only

rovides an empirical  
slative activity is an

ons to Influence Legisla-  
ess.; Cong. Q. Almanac,

ical Association: Power,  
ne," 63 Yale L. J. 938,

roups, p. 100 (1958).

128-129 (1942); Commis-  
and Responsible Press

ouncil, pp. 18-19 (1959)

essential part of any realistic effort by workers to  
and maintain their bargaining position, and to  
atmosphere favorable to their general economic  
advancement. But we need not rely upon our own  
tation of the data available. A host of disinter-  
economists stand ready to verify this conclusion.<sup>53</sup>

Professor Lloyd G. Reynolds of Yale sums up t  
in this way:

"It is often debated whether unions should  
politics'; really, they have no choice in th  
They are automatically in politics because  
under a legal and political system which  
generally critical of union activities. The c  
suit and the injunction judge have been a pr  
unions from earliest times. A minimum of  
activity is essential in order that unions ma  
to engage in collective bargaining on even t

In addition to emphasizing that labor cannot ev  
effectively in collective bargaining without  
amount of political action, Reynolds discusses  
practical reasons for labor political activity. Fir  
objectives in which labor has an interest cannot b  
at all through collective bargaining. These inclu  
education, social insurance of various kinds,  
housing, and effective anti-depression measures.  
certain objectives which might be achieved thro  
tive bargaining can be achieved much faster thro  
lation. This category embraces legislation cover  
num wages, maximum hours, and the eliminatio

<sup>52</sup> In addition to the authorities discussed in "the"  
economists stressing the need for union political act  
Sturmthal, "Pressure Group or Political Action," and  
"Labor Parties in the United States," in Bakke and  
Unions, Management and the Public, pp. 215-218, 218

<sup>53</sup> Reynolds, *Labor Economics and Labor Relations*,  
(1959):

labor. Reynolds assigns prime responsibility for the progress of social legislation to the "increasing political awareness of trade unions."<sup>57</sup> At the same time, however, he concludes that the increase in the political influence of organized labor has been offset by a simultaneous increase in lobbying by groups directly opposed to labor. The net result is that the workers' political power "is still not very great vis-à-vis other groups."<sup>58</sup>

Two other scholars, Daugherty of Northwestern and Parrish of Illinois, give as the reason for unionists' interest in politics their recognition of "their inability to cope with anti-union employers on equal terms on the economic field, [and] . . . their inability to protect their members against the vicissitudes of depression," together with their discovery of "what a great difference a favorable government made in their fortunes."<sup>59</sup>

Princeton economist Richard A. Lester even defines a labor union in political terms, stating that it is "a political organization representing the members' job interests and their viewpoints on political and social issues."<sup>60</sup> He emphasizes that unions "perform educational functions and help to reconcile conflicts of interest," and so serve "a beneficial role in a democratic society."<sup>61</sup>

### CONCLUSION

We submit that there is no constitutional question in this case because there is no governmental action involved in a union's use of its funds for political activities. At the very most we find "questions not of constitutional validity but of policy in a domain of legislation peculiarly open to con-

<sup>57</sup> *Id.*, p. 328.

<sup>58</sup> *Id.*, p. 82.

<sup>59</sup> Daugherty and Parrish, *Labor Problems of American Society*, p. 408 (1952).

<sup>60</sup> Lester, *As Unions Mature*, p. 14 (1958).

<sup>61</sup> *Id.*, p. 20.

ficting views of policy." Frankfurter, J., concurring in *Railway Employees' Department v. Hanson*, 351 U.S. 225, 239. If Congress in permitting the union shop in the railroad industry has somehow tinged union political spending with a trace of governmental color, then we say: a wealth of historical and economic data nevertheless establishes that such spending, under the circumstances, is not unreasonable or arbitrary, but rather a means having a real and substantial relation to the economic advancement of the worker via stable collective bargaining. There is thus no violation of constitutional due process.

For the foregoing reasons and for the reasons stated in the brief for appellants, the judgment of the Supreme Court of Georgia should be reversed and the case remanded to that Court, with instructions to reverse the judgment of the Superior Court of Bibb County with remittitur to the Superior Court directing it to vacate its judgment and order of December 8, 1958 and to dismiss the case.

Respectfully submitted,

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